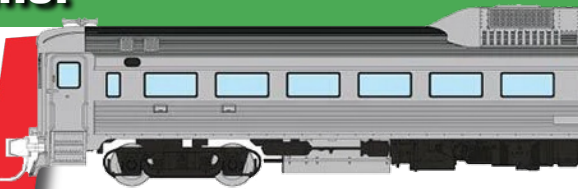


N-scale RDC announced by Rapido Trains!

Model **Railroad** News

The All-Scale News Monthly



Then and Now: GP35s



**from
Broadway Limited Imports
All-New in HO scale!**



**Enjoy the Miniature Outdoors
in a 1977 Chevy Camper**
from Classic Metal Works in HO

Volume 30, Issue 3 • March 2024

\$10.99US \$11.99CAN



0 09128 24091 6

03>



ARRIVING THIS SPRING EMD GP30

HO
1:87 SCALE

PREPRODUCTION
MODEL SHOWN



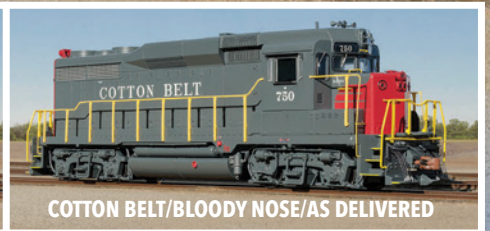
CB&Q/REDBIRD



B&O/CAPITOL DOME



CONRAIL/CAN OPENER



COTTON BELT/BLOODY NOSE/AS DELIVERED



SANTA FE/PINSTRIPES/AS DELIVERED



SOUTHERN/DULUX

ARRIVING SPRING 2024

DCC & Sound Equipped Retail: \$364.99 **Our Price: \$299.99**
DC/DCC Ready Retail: \$244.99 **Our Price: \$199.99**

A new era continues with the **Rivet Counter™** HO Scale EMD GP30. Introduced in 1961, the GP30 became one of the popular EMD locomotives on the rails for the next two decades. Our model renders numerous variations of cabs, dynamic brakes, doors, grilles, trucks, etc. Per the prototype and era, we've also incorporated LED lighting effects including front, rear, and side walkway lights; ground lights; printed and lighted number boards; and ditch lights. Preorder now before they arrive this spring to ensure availability.



SCALE
TRAINS

PREORDER NOW

www.ScaleTrains.com

ScaleTrains • 4901 Old Tasso Rd NE, Cleveland, TN 37312
844-9TRAINS 844-987-2467 • International 423-299-3689



\$1000 PREORDER PLEDGE

scaletrains.com/preorder-pledge

© 2024 ScaleTrains, Rivet Counter, and respective logos are trademarks of ScaleTrains.com, Inc. This product is made under trademark license from Union Pacific Railroad and CSX Transportation.

PIKO



KRAUSS-MAFFEI ML4000 DIESEL HYDRAULICS

Now Available! SP As-Delivered 9000, 9001, 9002

- RP-25 wheels, all powered.
- PIKO knuckle couplers, Kadee®-compatible.
- Incredible detail, from the brake rigging and gearboxes on the undersides of the trucks to the cab interior, engine room detail, etched grilles and free-spinning fan blades.
- Each road number has slightly different, prototypically accurate lettering.
- Over 80 separately-applied metal details.
- Non-sound, DCC/sound, and 3-rail sound versions.
- Plux22 decoder interface on all models. Sound versions feature the latest PIKO XP 5.1 SmartDecoder.
- 27 sound and light functions on DCC/sound versions:
 - Authentic dual Maybach diesel motor sounds
 - Real early '60s SP cab chatter
 - Many more realistic sounds
 - Dual headlights, dual white Gyalites, red Gyalite, lighted indicator boards, white/green/red class lights, rear light, cab interior light, control stand light, engine room lights



ALL PHOTOS SHOW ACTUAL PRODUCTION MODELS!

SEE YOUR PIKO RETAILER OR ORDER DIRECT



38



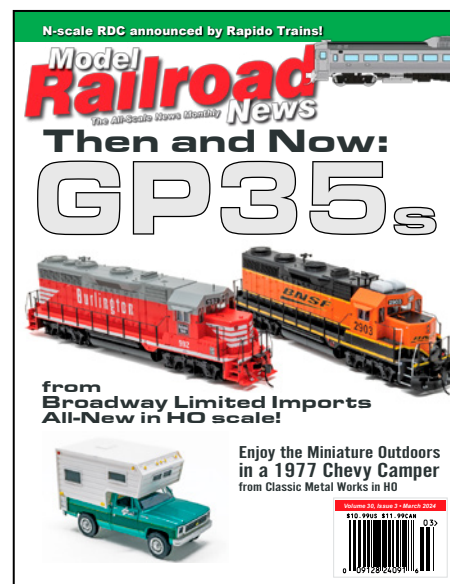
78



54



50



Visit us online at:

 modelrailroadnews.com

 facebook.com/ModelRailroadNews

On The Cover

Broadway Limited Imports debuts its HO-scale GP35 with several variations including BNSF and Chicago, Burlington & Quincy.

In This Issue...

Product News

- 12 — Locomotives & Rolling Stock
- 76 — Vehicles & Loads
- 80 — Structures, Scenery & more
- 90 — Books & more

HO-Scale Reviews

- 38 — Then and Now
 - Paragon 4 GP35s from Broadway Limited Imports
- 44 — Quiet, Dependable Transportation
 - Stealth GP35 from Broadway Limited Imports
- 48 — One of Three
 - Western Pacific SW1500 from Athearn
- 54 — Postwar 40-footer
 - Southern Pacific Lines boxcars from Tangent Scale Models
- 58 — Fantasy Dashing Dan
 - Bowser Long Island RS-3 from TrainWorld
- 60 — Pullman-Standard 2893 Returns
 - from Athearn Genesis
- 64 — South of the Border Boxcar
 - NdeM Postwar Single Door from Atlas
- 66 — Uncommon Looks
 - Santa Fe Boxcar and Norfolk & Western Caboose from Bachmann
- 68 — Sixty Feet of Space Awaits
 - Pullman-Standard flatcar from Walther's Mainline
- 78 — Enjoy the Miniature Outdoors
 - 1977 Chevy Truck Camper from Mini Metals
- 86 — Expand Your City
 - Merchant's Row VII from Walther's Cornerstone

N-Scale Review

- 70 — Pressure Advantage
 - ACF Flexi-Flo Hopper from Rapido Trains

S-Scale Review

- 72 — Peaked-End Premiere
 - 2-Bay Fishbelly Hopper from S-Helper Service-Scale Trains

Book Review

- 92 — Prototype Influence
 - History Series from Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Society

Editorial and Letters	10
Prototype Profile: Electro-Motive's GP35	36
Timetable	93
From The Archive: Merchant's Row Series	94
Dealer Directory	96
Advertising Index	98



WHITERIVER PRODUCTIONS

877-787-2467

info@whiteriverproductions.com
whiteriverproductions.com

PUBLISHER

Kevin EuDaly/White River Productions

EDITOR

Tony Cook

editor@modelrailroadnews.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Shane T. Mason

stmason@modelrailroadnews.com

LAYOUT

Tony Cook

PROOFREADER

Julie Jessup

EDITORIAL ADDRESS

Model Railroad News
105 S. Main St., Suite 177
Plattsburg, MO 64477

NEWS EDITOR

news@modelrailroadnews.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Michael Ostertag,
Pamela Varney, and Harry K. Wong

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES 877-787-2467

SUBSCRIBER ADDRESS CHANGES

P.O. Box 48 • Bucklin, MO 64631
subs@whiteriverproductions.com

ADVERTISING

Michael W. Lindsay

ads@modelrailroadnews.com

541-955-1096

DEALER SALES

dealers@whiteriverproductions.com

Dan Hansen • 866-451-7243

Chris Lane • 303-489-8760

MODEL RAILROAD NEWS (ISSN 1523-4244, USPS No. 0019-438) is published monthly by White River Productions, Inc., 24632 Anchor Ave, Bucklin, MO, 64631. Periodical Postage Paid at Bucklin, MO, 64631 and additional mailing offices.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: U.S.A. \$56.00 per year, Canada \$76.00 per year, International \$91.00 per year. Single copies are \$10.99 plus shipping. Payment must be in U.S. funds.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to Model Railroad News, P.O. Box 48, Bucklin, MO, 64631. Send new subscriptions, renewals, and change of address (please include mailing label if available) to Model Railroad News, P.O. Box 48, Bucklin, MO, 64631 or email subs@whiteriverproductions.com. Please allow six weeks for change of address.

All material in this publication, except where noted, is copyright ©2024 by White River Productions and may not be reproduced in any form without prior written permission from the publisher. Trademarks, servicemarks, etc., where used, are the property of their respective owners.



PARAGON 4

WITH ROLLINGTHUNDER™



HO SCALE EMD F3/F7 - VARIOUS SCHEMES
ORDER TODAY!



HO SCALE BALDWIN SHARKNOSE - VARIOUS SCHEMES
ORDER TODAY!



FACTORYDIRECTHOBBIES.COM
We're your preorder for \$0 down headquarters for all brands.



*It's "Day One" on
May 1st, 1971...*

... And the National Railroad Passenger Corporation known as Amtrak is about to take over commercial rail travel in the United States. Having a fleet comprised entirely of inherited locomotives, Amtrak had former Penn Central E8A #4316 painted in a special blue and black livery to commemorate their first day of operations. Now, in 2024, you too can celebrate Amtrak's early years with new "Day One" and Phase I E8As from Kato USA!

176-1971 | E8A Amtrak "Day One" #4316 | MSRP: \$130

176-1971-DCC | E8A Amtrak "Day One" #4316 w/DCC | MSRP: \$230

176-1971-S | E8A Amtrak "Day One" #4316 w/Sound | MSRP: \$330

176-5346 | E8A Amtrak Phase I #298 | MSRP: \$120

176-5346-DCC | E8A Amtrak Phase I #298 w/DCC | MSRP: \$220

176-5346-S | E8A Amtrak Phase I #298 w/Sound | MSRP: \$320

176-5347 | E8A Amtrak Phase I #322 | MSRP: \$120

176-5347-DCC | E8A Amtrak Phase I #322 w/DCC | MSRP: \$220

176-5347-S | E8A Amtrak Phase I #322 w/Sound | MSRP: \$320

Like their locomotives, all of Amtrak's rolling stock was inherited from other railroads and it took many years for uniform branding to be painted on the entire fleet. This resulted in a colorful rainbow-like appearance on Amtrak trains throughout the 1970s. To replicate these early years, Kato is releasing an 8-Car "Rainbow Era" Coach Set comprised of various Penn-Central & Amtrak Phase I cars.

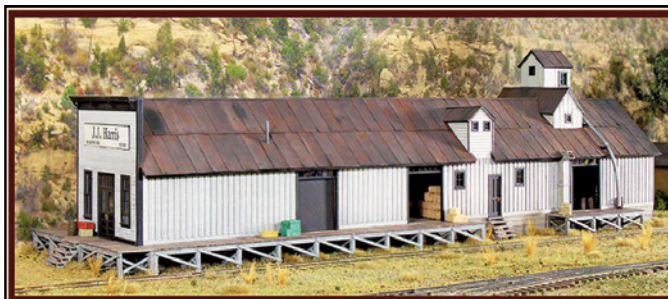
106-1971 | Amtrak "Rainbow Era" 8-Car Set | MSRP: \$280

106-1971-1 | "Rainbow Era" 8-Car Set w/Lighting | MSRP: \$400

Officially licensed by Amtrak. Amtrak Viewliner, and Superliner are registered trademarks of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

Want to model in
the perfect size?

THINK
S
SCALE!



**J.J. HARRIS
WAREHOUSE**

S: \$225

H0: \$210

*Simply the finest laser cut kits
you can buy!*



Ragg's...To Riches?

499 DAVIS HILL ROAD, MIDDLEBURY CENTER, PA 16935
www.raggstoriches.com

(570) 376-2025

SHIPPING \$12/ORDER; INTERNATIONAL: ACTUAL COST

ELECTROMOTIVE POWER FOR S SCALE

The ElectroMotive Division of the General Motors Company led the dieselization of America's Railroads. American Models provides classic EMD diesel power for S scale, available in Hi-Rail or Scale configurations.

CHOOSE FROM E-8As ■ F-40PHs ■ F7Bs ■ FP-7As ■ GP-35s ■ GP-9/18s



Available in multiple road names and numbers

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED ■ SEND \$10 FOR CATALOG ■ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS



American Models 11770 GREEN OAK IND, WHITMORE LAKE, MI 48189

americanmodels@sbcglobal.net 734-449-1100 www.americanmodels.com



EXPLORE THE WORLD OF 1:64 SCALE

www.NASG.org

The Most Complete Resource
for Modeling in S Scale

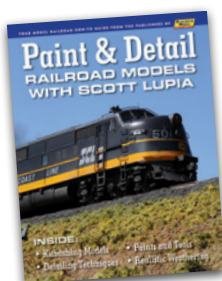
Look what's being done in S today!



S Layout Photos nasg.org/Layouts

S Manufacturers nasg.org/Resources

S Products List nasg.org/Gallery



PAINT & DETAIL RAILROAD MODELS WITH SCOTT LUPIA

You can build detailed railroad models! Scott Lupia shares more than 30 years of custom model building experience in this collection from the pages of *Railroad Model Craftsman*. You'll find expert tips on kitbashing, detailing, paints and tools, weathering, and more! Get inspired today!

\$24.95

Order item PDRM

S/H per book: \$10 U.S., \$30 Non-U.S.

Call or visit our website for other shipping options.

Find this and other great products online at shop.WhiteRiverProductions.com

**WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS**

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560

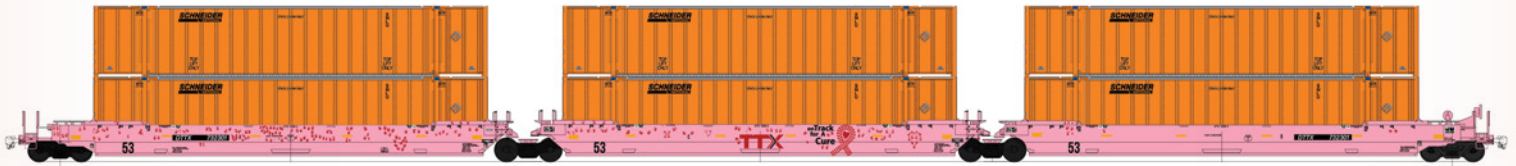
P.O. Box 48, Bucklin, MO 64631 • info@WhiteRiverProductions.com



ADVANCE RESERVATION

HO
Scale

Maxi IV Stack Cars & Container Car Bundles!



The Gunderson MAXI-IV container well car is a three-unit articulated freight car designed to carry multiple intermodal container sizes, maximizing versatility and flexibility for railroads and shippers alike. The depressed center well allows for containers to be stacked two high, resulting in a dramatic increase in containers carried per train versus conventional flat cars. The three-unit car carries one roadnumber with suffixes used to distinguish the separate wells and is joined together by drawbars on the interior well with couplers on the two end cars. Containers as large as 53 feet can be carried in the well while the top container can be as long as 57 feet, allowing for efficient transport of both domestic and international containers. The durability, flexibility, and successful history of the MAXI IV have made it one of the most popular intermodal cars on the railroads today. As a result, they can be found throughout North America.

Eight colorful combinations of the Maxi IV Container Cars and containers are now available for Advance Reservation. Each of the three car sets of Maxi IV's will have a set of six containers packaged in combination with the cars. The containers will be of the same owner within the set but each container will have a unique road number. The three car sets of the Maxi IV can be purchased with or without the containers. The containers are also available in two packs as a separate item. The three unit articulated sets of the Maxi IV feature operating metal knuckle couplers, numerous etched metal and fine plastic details, and precision InterMountain metal wheel sets. All items have laser sharp decoration and are offered with prototypically accurate multiple road numbers.

The bundles include one 3-unit articulated set of Maxi IV stack cars and Six 53ft. Containers.



DTTX - TTX Paint
BNSF
Pacer
DTTX - Red Logo

AOK
DTTX ex-BRAN
Trailer Train
Utah Central - UCRY



J.B. Hunt - JBHU - Duraplate
Hub Group - UPHU - Hyundai Hi-Cube
EMP - EMHU - Hyundai Hi-Cube
Schneider - SNLU - Hyundai Late

Contact Your Favorite Hobby Dealer & Take Advantage of InterMountain Railway's No-Risk **ADVANCE RESERVATION** Process.



Visit: ircrtrains.com
Call: 1-800-472-2530
Join the Modelers' Club: ircmodelersclub.com



I recently read an interesting article, "Finding Your New Favorite Hobby" in the December 2023/January 2024 edition of *Reader's Digest* (rd.com). I was not turning pages and taking in this information with the goal of finding a new hobby; instead, I was looking for confirmation of why model railroading holds an appeal for me (and likely you too). As I traveled through the suggestions ranging from starting small to being open-minded, I encountered a section devoted to getting back to something that held appeal to a person in their youth. For me, model railroading serves this area and I find the same fascination and excitement for miniature trains today (I'm in my late 50s) as I did as a youngster. I'm thankful that I never

strayed far from this excellent leisure activity and have enjoyed its benefits for more than a half-century.

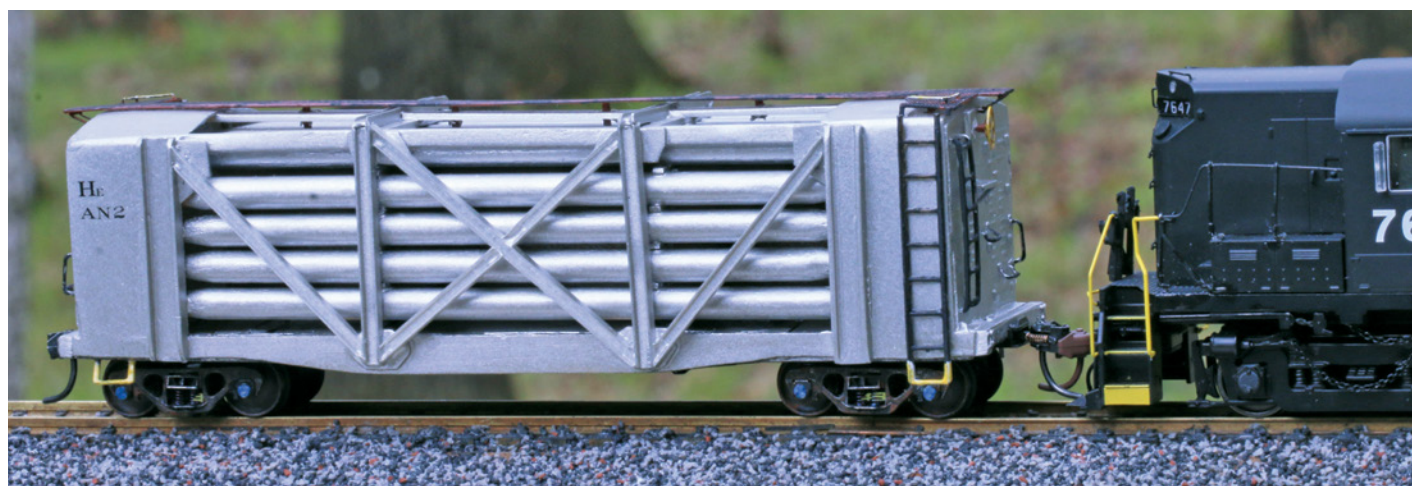
A nurse practitioner, Kate Hanselman, is quoted early in the article stating, "Hobbies lead to better physical health, more sleep, lower stress, greater life satisfaction, a larger social network, and improved work performance." Another interesting statement in the article says we should pursue a leisure activity without guilt (as this can foster anxiety).

I invite you to relax and enjoy this March 2024 edition of *MODEL RAILROAD NEWS*. I've wrangled together information on interesting and important coming products and you'll read reviews for several releases, including Broadway Limited Imports' first

production of HO-scale GP35 diesel locomotive models, Athearn's latest Pullman-Standard PS-2893 covered hoppers in the manufacturer's Genesis line, a pair of interesting books published by the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Historical Society, and a new addition to Walther's long-running Merchant's Row series of building kits. I also share a survey of the many releases making up the Merchant's Row collection in this edition's "From The Archive."

— Tony Cook, editor

LETTERS



Covers and Helium

I figured your November cover with the pair of gold GP40s and the rear quarter view of the Oxford Diecast 1959 Imperial would be a shoe-in for best cover of 2023, but your December cover photo with the Hudson and Cadillac Eldorado makes the choice much more difficult. But the hard-core Mopar guy in me has to give November the nod. Along comes January 2024 with that fabulous Rapido GE U25B demonstrator on the cover! Great personal memories there, as my dad had transferred to a small town in Quebec southwest of Montreal in 1959. Huntingdon did not have a public library, but both *Trains* and

Railroad Magazine were available on the newsstand so as a 12-year-old, I am guessing it was around 1960 that the first GE U25B ads appeared in *Trains* and I seem to recall a color GE ad insert featuring the high hood demonstrators. As much as I would love to, I have had to talk myself out of purchasing one of these landmark locomotives. I have modules to detail and they will not see any detailing if I shift my focus.

I am attaching a photo of a former basket case Ambroid Helium car which was given to me by a friend who obtained a number of pieces of derelict HO rolling stock from his late friend's estate. Until I found a plan view and elevation drawing of the prototype, I was

at a loss to even know where to start. The vertical U-channels are scratchbuilt from Evergreen sheet and the I-beams are also Evergreen material. I used clear pine strip to replace any of the missing wood pieces including the side sills. It is rather crude compared to what we have available to us today and being a restoration, it has no collectors' value, but at least it no longer sits in bits and pieces in a box and is an interesting and valued addition to my fleet.

Thank you to you and your staff for the fabulous job that you do!

Bill Ottney
Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada

ANOTHER GREAT CHAPTER IN MODEL RAILROAD HISTORY

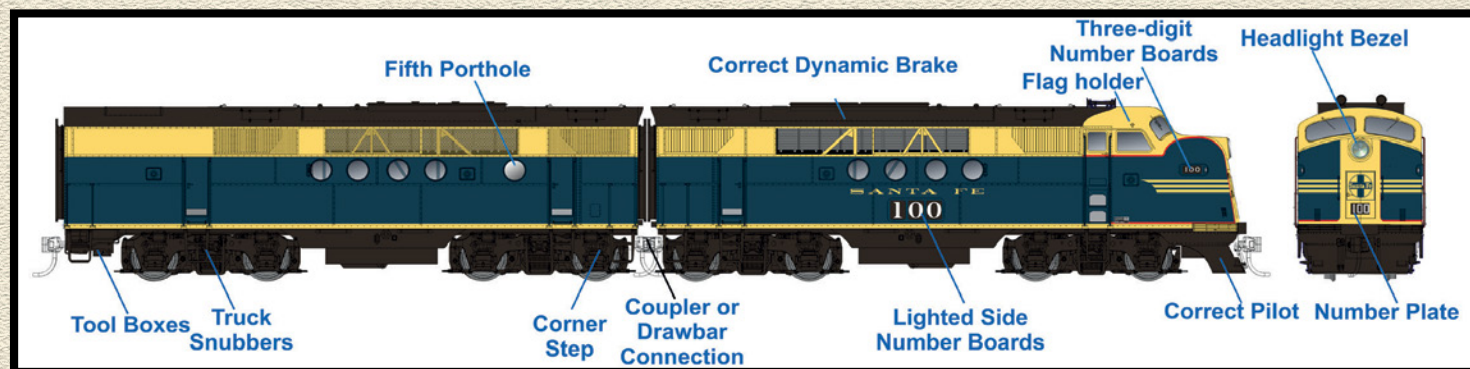
MoPower BY RAPIDO
UNINTERRUPTED LOCOMOTIVE POWER

**H0
SCALE**



INTRODUCING THE RAPIDO FT LOCOMOTIVE

Featuring Santa Fe and 8 other great railroads!



**CONTACT YOUR RETAILER OR
ORDER DIRECT AT RAPIDOTRAINS.COM**



Quality. Style. Spirit.™

rapidotrains.com • youtube.com/RapidoTrains • facebook.com/RapidoTrains

RAPIDO

Budd RDC-1 in two production phases announced for N scale by Rapido Trains



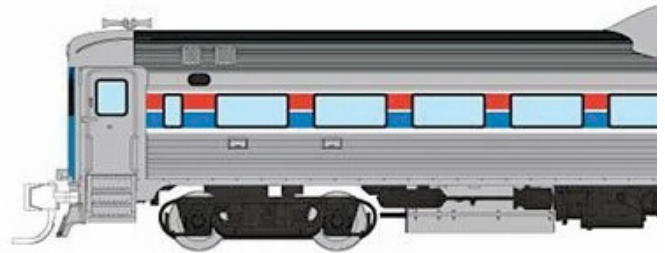
N — Rapido Trains has set a March 15 deadline for reservations on an all-new N-scale Budd Rail Diesel Car (RDC) model. This is a conditional announcement; a determination to proceed with the project will come after the mid-March deadline and will be based on the response from hobbyists via reservations for a proposed first production of RDC-1s.

This model would use research Rapido Trains possesses from its HO-scale RDC and the manufacturer states the N-scale rendering would reproduce accurate versions of Budd's Phase I and II body styles for its RDC-1. This RDC miniature would include all-wheel gearing and electrical pickup, directional headlights and red marker lights, flicker-free interior illumination, tinted windows, and fully detailed interiors. The model would come as a silent, standard DC release and in examples equipped with Digital Command Control and ESU LokSound audio.

The announced road names include

Above: Boston & Maine 6214 draws a crowd in 1958. Will Rapido Trains find similar support from N-scale modelers for its conditional announcement of a 1:160 RDC-1? — *Boston & Maine photo, Kevin EuDaly collection*

Below: A spotting feature of the two phases is the placement and design of the headlight on each end of the RDC. Units with headlights set into the body are Phase I, while those with lights placed higher in the hood are Phase II.





Above: These computer-generated 3D renderings provide a look and what to expect from Rapido Trains' N-scale Budd RDC-1 project.

Amtrak (Phase II livery), Baltimore & Ohio, BC Rail, Boston & Maine (McGinnis scheme), Canadian National, CP Rail, MTA Metro North, New Haven, New York Central, Reading, Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, and VIA Rail Canada (early scheme). This group presents a mix of RDC-1 Phase I and II with DCC-sound models listed for \$246.95 and silent DC releases carrying a \$142.45 suggested retail price. The Santa Fe release is shown as a two-unit set (DC-191 and DC-192); all other road names will be offered as single RDC models. Painted and unlettered RDCs in both body styles are announced in this release.

Rapido Trains, rapidotrains.com



Above: Reading 9164 shows the headlight placement of Budd's Phase I RDC-1 model. The VIA Rail example (below) has the raised headlight design of Phase II RDC-1s. — Photographer unknown, Kevin EuDaly collection

Below: VIA Rail Canada is included in the announced road names for Rapido's N-scale RDC-1. VIA 6104 is shown at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, in July 1979. — Dick Kuelbs photo, Kevin EuDaly collection



Rapido Trains will add General Motors FT in HO scale



HO — Rapido Trains announces a new project that will bring the landmark FT diesel locomotive (in A- and B-unit renderings) to HO scale.

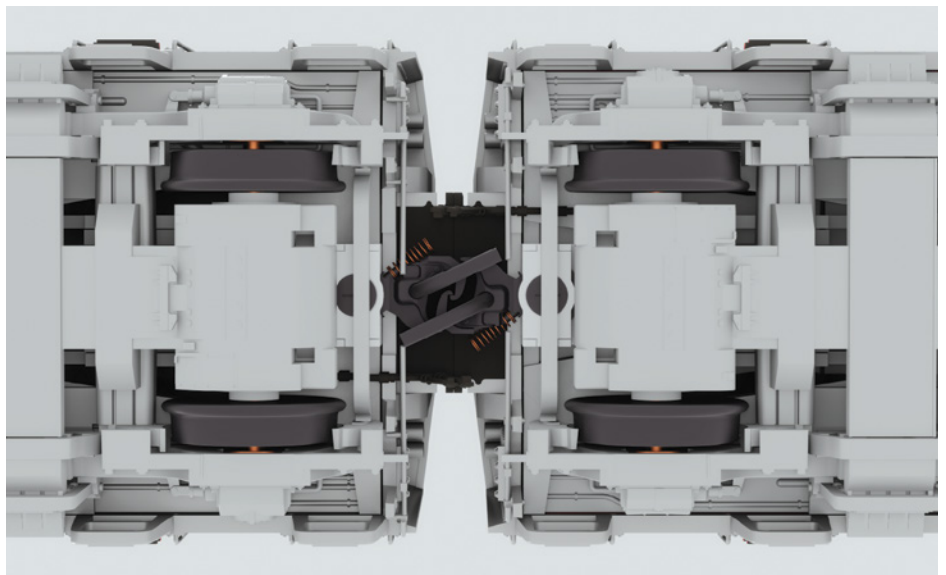
In 1939, Electro-Motive Corporation (the forerunner to Electro-Motive Division, which began the company name in 1941) sent the first FT diesel locomotive demonstrator units out to show off their abilities to North American railroads. This was the debut for the famed bulldog nose, which later went on to see use on passenger E-units and the ongoing series of F-units through the F9 of the latter half of the 1950s.

As the U.S. entered World War II at the close of 1941, government directives put restrictions on what was built but EMD was given the green light to produce its new FTs to aid in the transportation demands of the war years.

The FT's combination of being selected by the U.S. government's production board and the success and reliability of

Above: This is a repainted Santa Fe FT A/B set with dual headlights in the A-unit nose and steam generator details on the back end of the B-unit. Santa Fe's FT came as freight movers in blue and yellow with a group seeing modifications including the famous red and silver Warbonnet livery and joining the road's celebrated passenger fleet.

Below: Always a challenge in model reproductions is the ability to close couple F-units for an authentic appearance. This Rapido Trains illustration shows the company's design plans for its coming HO-scale FTs, which promise to provide hobbyists a model with a short distance between the ends of these classic F-units.



Right: The innovative FT is easy to spot with its four centered portholes on the body side, roofline with two pairs of round screened grilles, four exhaust stacks on the middle of the roof, and large squared corner dynamic brake sections (for units so equipped with this feature). This illustration shows a dynamic brake-equipped Santa Fe FT A-unit.

the new design helped put the diesel locomotive on its way to revolutionize railroading. The FT generally consisted of mated A- and B-units (usually semi-permanently connected via a drawbar) with production numbers showing more than 500 of both units built. The four portholes closely placed together on the midsection of the body is a spotting feature, though you'll find B-units with the series of four portholes plus an additional porthole found on the right side only (as shown on the B-unit illustration on the facing page); this was part of a control option on select FT B-units for moving them independently. While most FT A-units came with a single headlight, some railroads bought the optional second headlight (as shown on the Santa Fe illustration on the facing page). Classification lights and number boards were narrow protrusions on the sides of the nose (with some owners modifying FTs to include the larger angled number boards common on later EMD F-units). The roofline details include a series of four exhaust stacks boxed by raised squared-off additions for units with dynamic braking. The appearance of the ridged braking differed over the years of FT production. Rapido's information on the units (available as "Master Class" on the company's website under the FT section) indicates their design team finds three variations for the appearance of dynamic brakes. Another interesting feature on select FTs was the inclusion of illuminated side road number panels (the white 168 on black background panels on the Santa Fe illustration on the facing page is an example of this side number panel). Though it was uncommon, EMD included steam generator ability as an option for its F-unit As after the FT; on this early F-unit, only B-units could house equipment needed to boil water for use in steam heating in passenger service.

Right: Lighting features will include functioning ground light over the lead truck (shown above right) and backup light on the tail of the unit. End details will include separately applied MU hoses, trainline hose, and coupler cut lever.







For its debut run, Rapido Trains plans nine road names: Boston & Maine; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Great Northern; Lackawanna; The Milwaukee Road; New York, Ontario & Western; Northern Pacific; Reading; and Santa Fe. Santa Fe models will include the as-delivered blue freight scheme and the red and silver repaint into Warbonnet livery. As you would expect, Rapido Trains will reproduce its new HO-scale FT replicas with production phase and road specific attributes. Take a look at the early illustrations shared on the facing page and note the range of details and variations among the road names.

The assembled locomotives will come with a close-coupling design with the ability to employ either a drawbar between units or a separately installed knuckle coupler. The plastic body shells will include etched-metal side and roof screens, separately applied handrails and grab irons, and more. Lighting will include working headlights, backup light, number boards, and ground lights. The drive mechanism, mounted in a die-cast chassis, will include Rapido's "Mo-Power" capacitor for uninterrupted operation and ESU's LokSound (with authentic digital audio files) for Digital Command Control (DCC) releases. You'll find A-B sets offered with multiple road numbers and those DCC-sound models list for \$659.95. FT booster B-units with DCC-sound will be available for \$319.95 each. The silent, standard DC series will come in

A-B sets that retail for \$439.95, with FT B-units offered in this setup for \$209.95 each. The non-sound mechanism will include a 21-pin socket for future conversion to digital operation. Reservations are being accepted now direct from Rapido Trains and through your

favorite hobby dealer. No release date is announced; watch for updates on this project and news of its arrival in the near future in the pages of *MODEL RAILROAD NEWS*.

Rapido Trains, rapidotrains.com



Above and Below: Racing westbound near Chillicothe, Ill., is a Santa Fe A-B-B consist showing this landmark locomotive in its youth (above). Northern Pacific 5400A (below) is a near-retirement FT with many modifications in 1965. Rapido Trains plans to provide a range of looks like these for its all-new HO model. — Photographer unknown above, Tim Morris photo below, both Kevin EuDaly collection



Tangent Scale Models introduces Bethlehem 3350 coal hopper in HO scale



HO — Tangent Scale Models now offers a popular Eastern coal hopper as a finely detailed HO-scale replica. Bethlehem Steel's 3,350-cubic-foot-capacity hopper served as a backbone for Clinchfield and Louisville & Nashville fleets with production running from 1974 to 1980. The first release includes several variants to capture the look of the prototype across its years of production. The model sells for \$52.95 and can be ordered direct from Tangent Scale Models and is also available from the manufacturer's dealer network.

Tangent Scale Models, tangentscalemodels.com



First run for Rapido Trains HO-scale GP38 nears delivery

HO — Rapido Trains shares this view from the production facility in China building the first run of the hobby company's all-new GP38 diesel locomotive model. This highly anticipated HO-scale offering will provide road- and production-accurate replicas for this popular Electro-Motive Division four-axle unit. *MODEL RAILROAD NEWS* finds select road names (including some road numbers for the blue and yellow Santa Fe shown at right) are already listed as sold out by Rapido Trains. The model will be offered with DCC-sound (ESU's LokSound) and in a silent DC version. Check with your hobby dealer for supply and delivery of the first run of Rapido Trains' HO-scale GP38 diesel locomotive models.

Rapido Trains, rapidotrains.com



Introducing the UT6 & UT6D Utility Throttles for Digitrax Complete Train Control!



- Compact size for easy one-handed operation
- Color 1.5" LCD Screen
- Full numeric keys for easy Locomotive selection
- Fine speed control with a large encoder knob
- Removeable LocoNet® cord
- Forward/Reverse toggle switch with Braking
- Off/On switch, uses AA or BP600MH batteries

UT6
Utility Throttle
\$105.00 MSRP

UT6D
Duplex Utility Throttle
\$170.00 MSRP

**View all features and *more*
on our website!**

Find out more @ www.digitrax.com/throttles/

KR Models delivers skeletal logging car in HO, first run for Shay steam locomotive will follow



HO – KR Models started 2024 with delivery of its all-new skeletal logging car, offered in several options. Check KR Models online for availability and pricing. The company's Shay steam locomotive is in production and due soon.

KR Models, krmodels.net



NOW AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL HOBBY SHOP
ATLAS MASTER® HO PORTEC 3000 COVERED HOPPER



Additional paint schemes available:
The Andersons Inc. (AEX), Midwest Railcar (MCEX), Milwaukee Road, Winifrede RR (WNFR), Winchester & Western

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO LOCATE AN ATLAS AUTHORIZED DEALER, VISIT SHOP.ATLASRR.COM

While you're browsing, sign up to become an Atlas Insider! We'll deliver the latest Atlas news directly to your email inbox!

ATLAS MODEL RAILROAD CO., INC. • 378 Florence Ave., Hillside, NJ 07205 • www.atlasrr.com



Snow removal combo from Athearn in HO



HO – Athearn pairs its rotary snowplow and F7B diesel locomotive for this snow clearing release. The HO plow includes spinning rotary blades and the F7B is standard DC powered. There are several road names available including Alaska Railroad (above) and CP Rail (right). Check with your hobby dealer for pricing and availability.

Athearn Trains, athearn.com



NEW!

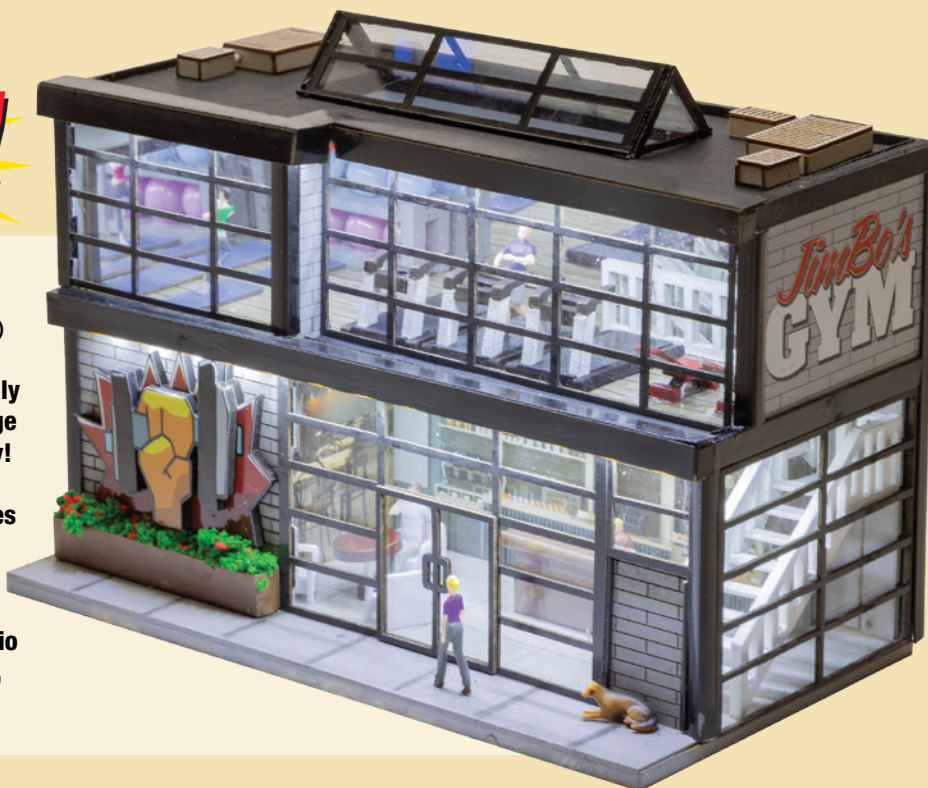
JIMBO'S GYM

HO SCALE (275-9254) | O SCALE (275-9253)

Fully lit modern building with fully decorated interior and extra large windows for maximum visibility!

First floor coffee shop with tables and chairs, barista, and customers!

Second floor gym and yoga studio with exercise balls, yoga mats, treadmills and mirrored walls!



For more information and to order, visit **MENARDS.COM/TRAINS**

Athearn delivers ballast hoppers in HO scale



HO — Athearn delivers a new production of 40-foot ballast hoppers. The model features Roundhouse-heritage tooling with several upgrades. Single hopper models retail for \$42.99 and 4-packs list for \$149.99. Six road names are available in this run: Frisco, New York Central, Norfolk Southern (above), Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, and Union Pacific (right). The ballast load is removable, and the car comes assembled with body-mounted couplers and metal wheels.

Athearn Trains, athearn.com



Athearn
GENESIS

IS IT REAL OR IS IT ATHEARN GENESIS?

SCANNER AND CAMERA NOT INCLUDED.

For more information and pricing, visit your favorite
Athearn retailer or head to www.athearn.com



Photo and Model Weathering: Tom Klimczak
Image has been edited from original

© 2024 Horizon Hobby, LLC. 832738

HORIZON | HH
H O B B Y

POULTRY AND EGG REEFER CAR SERIES!



Collect all six!



Micro-Trains has begun issuing a six car series of 36' wood sheathed reefer cars, that feature real companies that transported produce, butter, eggs and various grains in their own rail cars. Six individual rail cars will be released each month, ending in May 2024.



Available through your Micro-Trains dealer or online at www.micro-trains.com
P.O. Box 1200, Talent OR 97540-1200 USA • Email: mtl@micro-trains.com • Tel: +1 541-535-1755



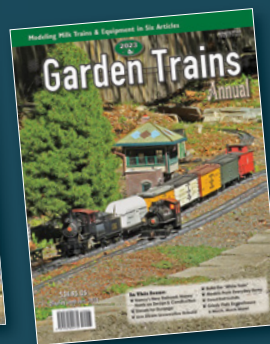
They only come around once a year...



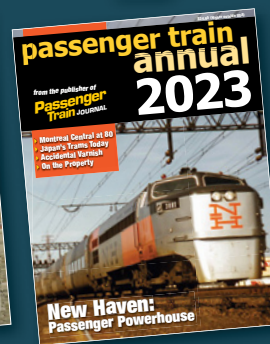
2023
On30 Annual
\$34.95



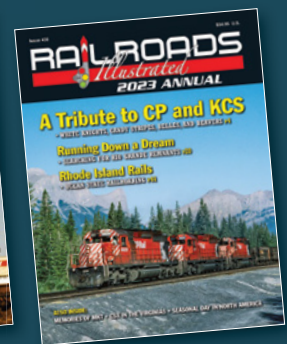
2023
HOOn3 Annual
\$34.95



2023 Garden
Trains Annual
\$34.95



2023 Passenger
Train Annual
\$34.95



2023 Railroads
Illustrated Annual
\$34.95

**See your dealer first or visit
shop.WhiteRiverProductions.com**

LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE. SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES \$10 U.S., \$30 INTERNATIONAL. SEE WEBSITE FOR SHIPPING OPTIONS

**WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS**

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631

Walthers Mainline General Steel Castings bulkhead flatcar due soon



HO — A new collection of General Steel Castings bulkhead flatcar models will arrive this spring from Walthers. The HO-scale release reproduces prototypes in service from the 1950s to the early 2000s. These specialty flatcars possessed bulkheads to aid in reducing end-to-end shifting of lumber, utility poles, pipes, steel beams, and more. This

Walthers Mainline freight car replica will include a die-cast body with finely detailed plastic bulkheads and deck. The fully assembled 53-foot bulkhead flatcar will come with 33-inch metal wheels and Proto MAX metal knuckle couplers. Walthers will have three road numbers for each of the six road names in this production: BNSF, Denver &

Rio Grande Western, Great Northern, Illinois Central Gulf, Penn Central, and Southern Railway. The decorated bulkhead flatcars carry a \$37.98 suggested retail price. An undecorated model will be included in this run and it lists for \$34.98. This release is due to ship during second quarter 2024.

Walthers, walthers.com

MAKE THE HITCH!

12 ISSUES
\$56
\$76 CANADA
\$91 INT'L.

12 ISSUES
\$56
\$76 CANADA
\$91 INT'L.

6 ISSUES
\$51
\$71 CANADA
\$86 INT'L.

Don't get left at the station!

NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

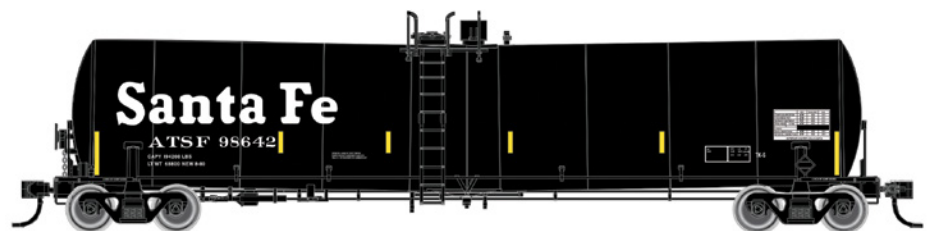
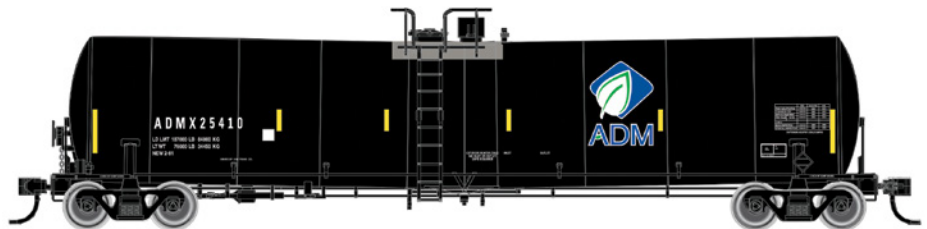
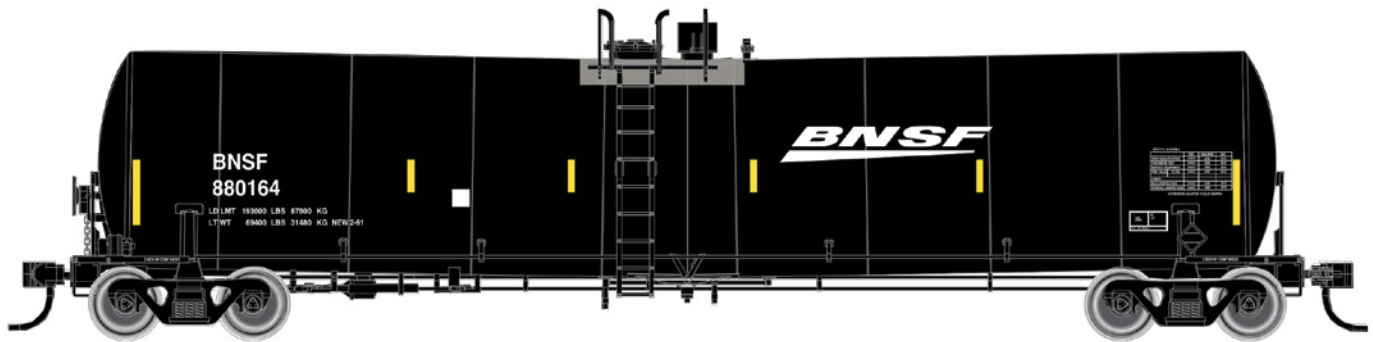
VISIT SHOP.WHITERIVERPRODUCTIONS.COM

WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631 • INFO@WHITERIVERPRODUCTIONS.COM

Visit our website for First Class rates and other shipping options!

Trinity 25,000-gallon tank car returning from Walthers in HO



HO – This contemporary Trinity prototype is a popular release from Walthers in the company's mid-level Mainline series. A spring delivery will bring a new batch of these 25,000-gallon tank car models: Archer Daniels Midland, BNSF, Bunge Corp., Cargill, GATX Corporation, Santa Fe, and Transportation Equipment. Each road name will include three road numbers. The fully assembled HO model replicates a 100-ton prototype and this 1:87 version will ride on accurate 36-inch metal wheels and will come with Proto MAX metal knuckle couplers.

Walthers, walthers.com

EASY TO ASSEMBLE HO SCALE KITS

ACCURAIL®

www.accurail.com

MADE IN THE USA

#8167 Norfolk Southern
2-Bay ACF Covered
Hopper 3-Car Set
\$64.98 Retail

Norfolk Southern singles available separately
#81671 Random from 3-Car Set \$21.98 Retail

#8166 Union Pacific 3-Bay ACF
Covered Hopper 3-Car Set
New paint scheme:
Class CH-90-9 Built 1966
\$64.98 Retail

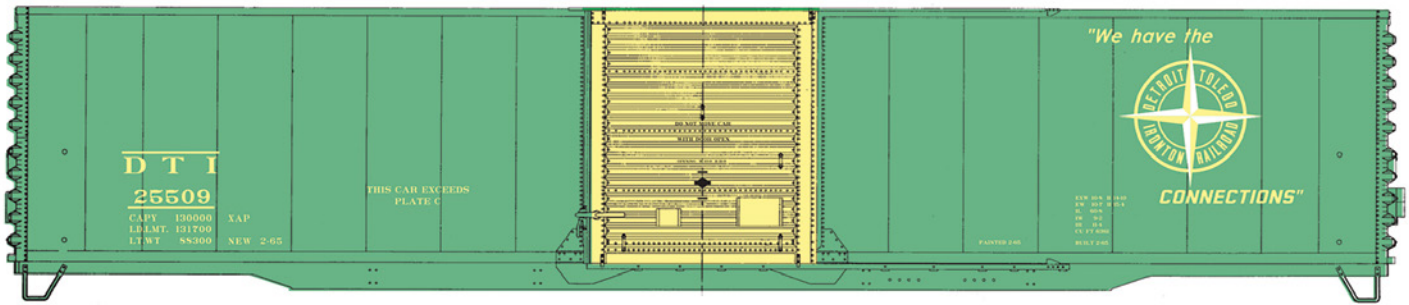
Union Pacific singles available separately
#81661 Random road number from 3-Car Set
\$21.98 Each Retail

#1412 Southern Railway
36' Double Sheath Wood Boxcar
\$20.98 Retail

#6548 Illinois Terminal
Pullman Standard Covered
Hopper \$22.98 Retail

PLEASE SEE YOUR HOBBY DEALER FIRST OR CALL 630-365-1173 FOR DIRECT ORDERS – ACCURAIL INC. PO BOX 278 ELBURN, IL 60119

New run of Pullman-Standard 60-foot auto parts boxcar coming from Walthers Mainline



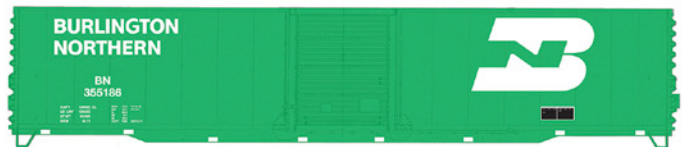
HO – Walthers will deliver this spring a new production of fully assembled 60-foot Pullman-Standard single-door auto parts boxcars. The plastic model reproduces a popular prototype introduced in the 1960s to North American railroading. Cars of this type remained in service through the end of the 20th century. These boxcars carried heavy parts used in vehicle production like

engines, transmissions, and brake drums. This version possesses a single sliding door.

The model will include separate ladders, detailed underbody, and cushioned coupler design. The model will come with 70-ton trucks fitted with 33-inch metal wheels. The HO-scale boxcar will come with Walthers' ProtoMAX metal knuckle couplers. There are seven

road names in this run, each with three road numbers: Baltimore & Ohio; Burlington Northern; CSX Transportation; Detroit, Toledo & Ironton; Norfolk Southern (with SOU reporting marks); Santa Fe; and Southern Railway. The model carries a \$37.98 suggested retail price.

Walthers, walthers.com




tru-color paint
Paint & Accessories
 When Only the **TRUEST** Color Will Do!

New Releases - Sets
 11014: Leasing Units Set
 TCP-101 Georgia Pacific-Blue
 TCP-259 EMD Demo.- Early (Metallic) Blue
 TCP-272 EMD Demo.- Late (Non-Metallic) Blue
 TCP-345 GE Leasing (GECX)- Blue
 TCP-379 Trailer Train (TTX) Leasing- Intermodal Yellow
 TCP-433 Matte Black

Post Office Box 74524
 Phoenix, AZ 85087-4524
 Info Ph: (623) 551-2548
 Visit Us at Our YouTube Channel: Tru-Color Paint

Sales Ph: (714) 488-9779
 Email: tru.colorpaint1@yahoo.com
 Website: www.trucolorpaint.com

SHOP ON-LINE 24/7
 We Supply the World

TRAINWORLD.com

N, HO, ON30 SUPER SAVINGS SALE
10% OFF
 @ **TRAINWORLD.COM**
 On-Line Orders Only
 Use CODE Word **MRN324** In Discount Code Box
SALE ENDS MARCH 15, 2024
 MODEL RAILROAD NEWS

ATHEARN 4-6-4 UP CHALLENGER
 N SCALE

 #25544 DCC-READY \$299.99
 SUPER SALE #25744 DCC/SOUND \$399.99
 More SALE Items @ trainworld.com

AMERICA'S LARGEST
 INTERNATIONAL MAIL ORDER
 DISCOUNT TRAIN STORE
Sign-up for Our E-mail Sales 1-800-541-7010 e-mail: ORDERS@TRAINWORLD.COM
 Huge Inventory • Great Selection • Fast Shipping
 725 McDonald Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11218

NO PRE-ORDERS
 NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH OR GIFT CARDS
 DISCOUNT DOES NOT APPLY TO SALES TAX OR SHIPPING & HANDLING
 NO REBATES, NO REFUNDS, NO STORE CREDIT ON PREVIOUSLY SOLD ITEMS
 NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS
 LIMITED QUANTITIES ON CERTAIN ITEMS
 CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS OR DISCOUNTS

Union Pacific turnout car in HO from Chippewa Rail Shops



HO — Chippewa Rail Shops offers a Union Pacific maintenance-of-way turnout car with pre-fab turnout. The \$60 kit requires trucks and couplers. You receive a turnout car and pre-fab turnout load.

Chippewa Rail Shops products are made to order and produced when an order is received. You can

purchase this and other releases via the company's Etsy shop. Buyers should expect a two- to four-week arrival time for delivery. This release sells for \$60, plus shipping.

Chippewa Rail Shops,
etsy.com/shop/ChippewaRailShops

Rock Island double-door boxcar from Kadee in HO scale



HO — Kadee's Pullman-Standard boxcar is available decorated for a 1960 factory-new appearance replicating a Rock Island 50-foot example with double sliding doors (15-foot opening with double-latch Youngstown doors). This model's road number, 64544, is from Rock Island's 64500-64599 series. The fully assembled HO-scale freight car model

retails for \$43.99 and includes black roof and ends with Boxcar Red sides and white lettering. The model comes with a Universal-type brake wheel, Kadee's scale-head metal knuckle couplers, and rides on the company's own HGC self-centering trucks.

Kadee Quality Products, kadee.com

Your HO & N Source For 40+ Years



**BIG INVENTORY
VALUE PRICING
FAST SHIPPING
GREAT SERVICE**

lombardhobby.com

630.620.1084



**524 E. St. Charles Place
Lombard, Illinois 60148**

Erie Lackawanna Railroad Historical Society 2024 CALENDAR



Erie Lackawanna Railroad Historical Society
2024 CALENDAR

14 GREAT PHOTOS!

Member price	plus	Non-member price
\$9.95	\$4.95 s&h	\$11.95
Add \$1 shipping each additional calendar		

ONLY PAYMENTS IN U.S. FUNDS WILL BE ACCEPTED

www.eriellackhs.org

Dealer Inquiries Welcome

Order from: **ELHS**, Department MRN
Jay Held, 10-10 ELLIS AVE, FAIR LAWN, N.J. 07410
For information send SASE
NJ, NY, PA, & Ohio res. add sales tax - outside US extra S&H

ELHS membership at \$55 per membership cycle. Cycle includes four issues of our magazine "The Diamond" and four newsletters with modeling information. Separate check please. Send to: **ELHS** c/o David Start, 22 Ice Plant Road, Lafayette, NJ 07848-2403

dstart.elhs@gmail.com

Milwaukee Road caboose will return from Walthers



Above and Below: Walthers will offer four Milwaukee Road decorations, a St. Maries River Railroad, and an undecorated release in its coming Proto-series HO-scale caboose model.

HO — Walthers expects to ship a new production of its Proto-series rib-side, bay window caboose this spring. The model comes fully assembled with two body styles (coal stove and oil stove) and reproduces a Milwaukee Road prototype used by the railroad from the 1940s into the 1980s. Three examples will come in the road's orange livery, and a brown Buildings & Bridges Crew Car (shown right) will be offered. Secondhand owner St. Maries River Railroad will be represented in the run, along with an undecorated offering. The decorated caboose models retail for \$59.98; the undecorated carries a \$54.98 suggested retail price.

Walthers, walthers.com



Lewis County Model RR Club
TRAIN SHOW & SWAP MEET
CHEHALIS, WA
APRIL 6-7, 2024

Saturday 10-4 Sunday 10-2 Admission: \$5.00
 Children 10 and Under Free Free Parking
 160+ sellers tables available \$25 for both days

Blue Pavillion Southwest WA Fairgrounds
 2555 N. National Ave, Chehalis, WA 98532

For more information contact Ted @ 360-985-7788
 or email tedstrains@lewiscounty.com

SPRING CREEK
MODEL TRAINS

One of the Largest H0 & N-Scale
 Inventories Around!

Scenery, Details, Books, Tools & More

SpringCreekModelTrains.com
402-365-7628


 Like us on facebook

Indianapolis Power & Light hoppers in N from NSE



N – The famous Reddy Kilowatt character first appeared in 1926 and served as the spokesman for many electrical generating companies. The N Scale Enthusiast (NSE) offers Atlas' three-bay hopper with simulated coal load decorated for Indianapolis Power & Light Company with the Reddy Kilowatt character

featured on the car sides. The release is a limited-production two-car set and only offered via NSE. Visit The N Scale Enthusiast online to learn more about the group, its publication, and its special model offerings.

The N Scale Enthusiast, nscaleenthusiast.com

Rebecca from Thomas & Friends nears release in HO



HO – Bachmann recently showed this view of a preproduction sample of its coming Rebecca steam locomotive for the hobby company's Thomas & Friends series of HO-scale releases. The powered 4-6-2 Rebecca steam locomotive will include moving eyes on her boiler face, and authentic

decoration. The undecorated early example is a work in progress, with changes and revisions coming before regular production commences. The fully assembled Rebecca (58826) will operate around curves of 18-inch radius or wider and lists for \$299.

Bachmann Trains, bachmanntrains.com

MICRO-SCALE MODELS

MUSEUM QUALITY CRAFTSMEN KITS



CARHARTS MILL
SHOPPE KIT(HO)

DYER'S HARDWARE
KIT (HO)



THESE AND MANY MORE KITS
& PARTS EXCLUSIVELY ON WEBSITE
WWW.MICRO-SCALE.COM

MICRO-SCALE PRESENTS



BOX INCLUDES
4 HEAVY DUTY,
FOAM LINED TRAYS



HOLDS UP TO:
96 HO BOXCARS
OR
48 PASSENGER CARS
BOX, FOAM, PLASTIC
ALL INCLUDED

WWW.HOSTLERTRAINBOX.COM



**SPECIALIZING IN N-SCALE
MODEL TRAINS & ACCESSORIES**

Visit us at pnptrains.com

425-496-8844

pnptrains@comcast.net

Facebook: PnP Trains

eBay: Ombra



A-LINE

Detail Parts
Drill Jig & Parts
Repowering Parts
Intermodal Equip.
1/87th Vehicle Parts
Train-Tote System

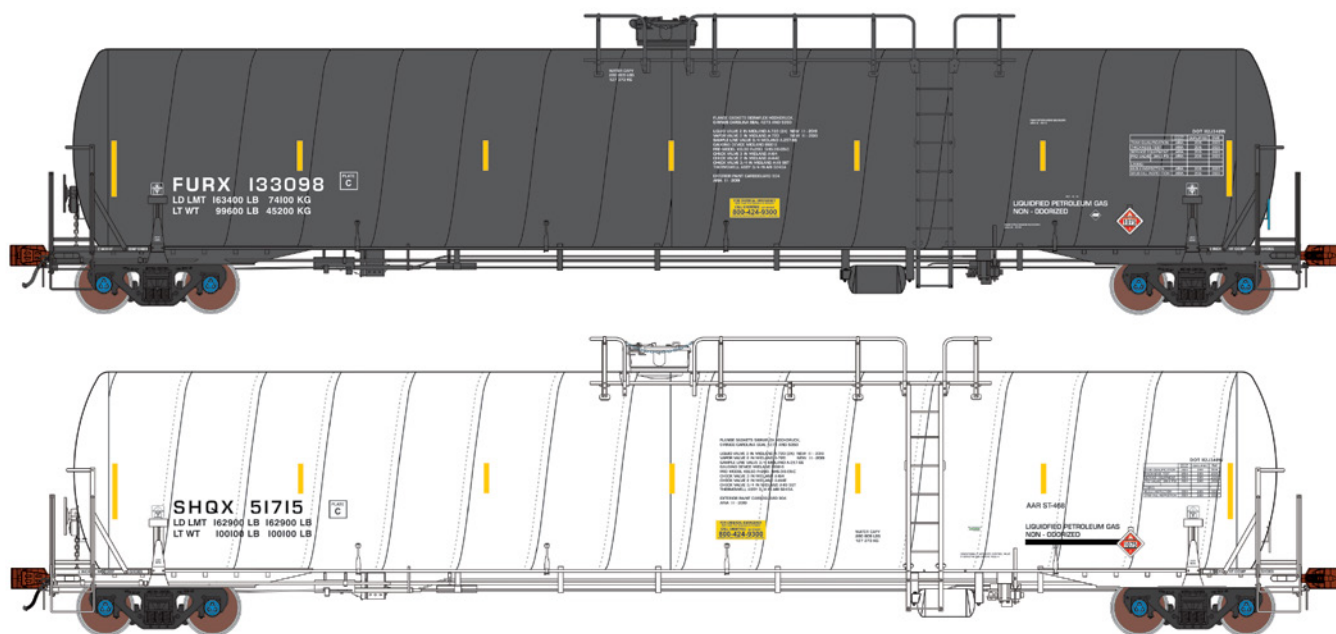
BLUE POINT

Switch Machine
Flex Link System
Throttle Pockets

BRANDS

Athearn
River Point Station
Truck N' Stuff
BLMA
Detail West
Classic Construction
Promotex/Herpa
Summit
Books
Specialty Items

Roka Prototype Models announces ARI/Greenbrier spiral tank car for HO scale



HO — Roka Prototype Models announces a spiral tank car project for HO-scale release. This will be the manufacturer's follow-up to its debut Safe Pak model that arrived in early 2023 (see the review in April 2023's *MODEL RAILROAD NEWS*).

The highly detailed replicas will come in multiple styles to accurately reproduce this modern prototype. The car builders listed by Roka are ARI and

Greenbrier. The announcement states the 1:87 releases will include two tank diameter sizes, two spiral seam variants, two railing and six ladder styles, and three brake gear types. The road names shown in the two illustrations provided by Roka include a black FURX and white SHQX with information from the hobby company that the release will include three prototype colors, multiple reporting marks, and several road numbers

for each road name. The assembled HO-scale 33,700-gallon spiral tank car will ride on metal wheels with rotating bearing caps mounted in the truck sideframes. Watch for information on the road names, pricing, and estimated delivery in the near future.

Roka Prototype Models, rokamodels.com

SAL/SCL Silver Meteor
HO Scale

The Coach Yard
Committed to Excellence
www.thecoachyard.com

Litchfield
STATION

Your DCC Shop!

- WIFI for your layout
- Digitrax: 245-LNWI
- NCE: Wif-WFD-30 and Wif-WFD-31
- Blunami decoders
- Use your phone or:
TCS-UWT-100 and
TCS-UWT-50P throttles

www.LitchfieldStation.com
623-298-7355
sales@litchfieldstation.com

Moving?

Please send your name, old address, and complete new mailing address to:
White River Productions
P.O. Box 48
Bucklin, MO 64631

or email:
subs@whiteriverproductions.com

Athearn delivers new group of HO-scale SD38s



HO – Athearn recently shipped an interesting collection of SD38 diesel locomotive models. The highly detailed trio shown is only part of this production. This fully assembled six-axle locomotive model is offered in standard DC version (with 21-pin socket for digital conversion). The DCC-sound SD38s come with SoundTraxx electronics. All models in this run include LED lighting. Shown on this page are the CANDO Rail Services (above), Reading & Northern anniversary scheme (right), and Norfolk Southern patched Conrail SD38 (right). There are several more road names, including Primed for Grime offerings. The standard DC models list for around \$175 and the DCC-sound SD38s retail for under \$250.



Athearn Trains, athearn.com

CUSTOM-BUILT & PAINTED G SCALE TRAINS

CUSTOM DECALS AND VINYL LETTERING
ALL SCALES



SHAWMUT CAR SHOPS
29-PAGE CATALOG \$7.00
Refunded on orders of \$50 or more
307 NORTH MICHAEL STREET • ST. MARYS, PA 15857
814-834-9455 www.shawmutcarshops.com

Model Railroad News
The All-Scale News Monthly

JB WHEELSETS
The Smoothest Runners

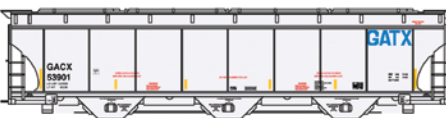
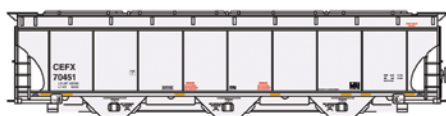
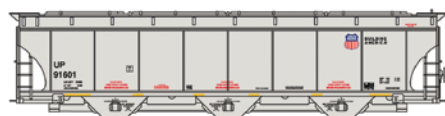
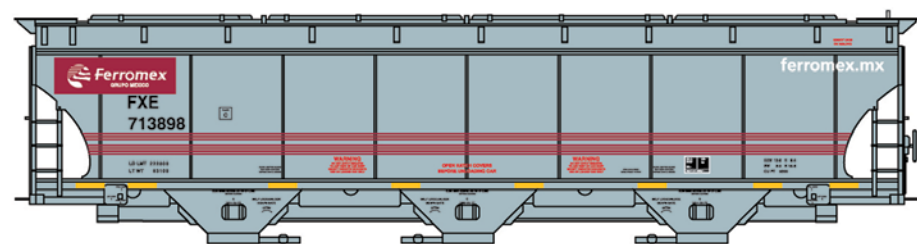
Slightly different name...
same great product!

**CHECK OUT OUR
RESISTOR WHEELS**



www.jbwheelsets.com

Trinity 5161 hopper returning with new looks from InterMountain Railway in N scale



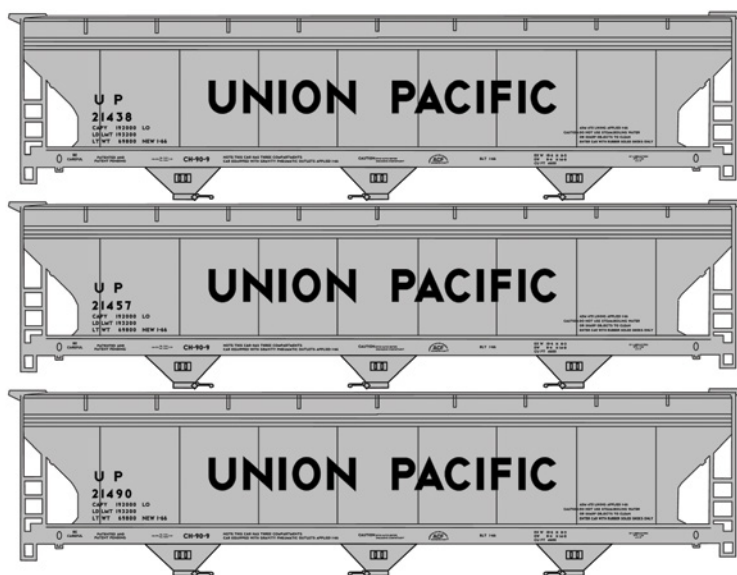
N — InterMountain Railway Co. announces a new production for its N-scale Trinity 5161 hopper. This three-bay freight car will come decorated for five new looks: Ferromex, Union Pacific, CEFX, CSX, and GATX. In addition, early era Mineral Red BNSF hoppers will be offered with the road's circle-cross herald. The fully assembled release retails for \$39.95 and six numbers will be offered for each road name. The model will come with etched roofwalks, metal wheels, and knuckle couplers.

InterMountain Railway Co., intermountain-railway.com

Accurail adds Mid-1960s Union Pacific decoration for ACF Centerflow kit in HO scale

HO — Accurail's American Car & Foundry (ACF) Centerflow hopper car is now available decorated for Union Pacific's CH-90-9 class of three-bay covered hoppers. This series entered service in 1966. The gray car with black lettering features large billboard presentation of the road's name. Single kits (81661, \$21.98) feature one of the numbers selected at random from the 3-car kit set (8166, \$64.98). These easy-to-assemble HO freight car kits are available now.

Accurail, accurail.com



N scale 3-Bay Offset Side Hoppers in stores now.



BLUFORD SHOPS
www.bluford-shops.com
Craig@bluford-shops.com

SP-T&NO, Seaboard, Pere Marquette, Ontario Northland, ONT-C&O service, P&LE, Missouri Pacific/M-I, KCS white, IC split rail, C&NW/CGW, B&O, CN 12" billboard, Santa Fe, CB&Q Chinese Red. See our website for more!

American Z Line adds Union Pacific SD40-2s in Z scale



Z – American Z Line (AZL) expands its collection of SD40-2 diesel locomotive models in Z scale with Union Pacific releases in three road numbers: 3707, 3723, and 3736. The ready-to-run SD40-2 model is a late production example with corrugated

radiators, Q-fans, exhaust silencer, 88-inch nose, and more. The powered locomotive includes directional LED lighting, AZL's AutoLatch couplers, optional pilot with plow, and traction tires on select axles for enhanced pulling power.

This Z-scale SD40-2 sells for \$196 and is available now. Find out more about the complete line of AZL products by visiting Ztrack Magazine.

American Z Line, ztrack.com

Submit your FREE event listing to TIMETABLE



Train shows, tourist railroads, museums, and more may submit railroad-related events for free! Submit once and have your events appear on our websites and be considered for our print editions in *Model Railroad News*, *Railpace*, *Railfan & Railroad*, and *Railroad Model Craftsman*.

modelrailroadnews.com/timetable

MANUFACTURERS' CATALOG ARCHIVE



**ALCO Locomotives
Volume 2 - Light Locomotive Parts**

Manufacturers' Catalog Archive is a new series of books from Silver-Lake Images. We will be releasing new books every month, created from rare historical documents on a variety of railroad topics.

**Book 60
ALCO Locomotives
Volume 2 - Light Locomotive Parts
\$35.00 each
postpaid within US**



Built for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific

Built for the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western

OUR COLLECTION:

Book 25 Bucyrus-Erie Company Vol 2.....	35.00	Book 44 Virginian Railway: Demonstration Heavy Tonnage Handling.....	35.00
Book 26 General Motors Electro-Motive Division Vol 1.....	35.00	Book 45 Budd RDCs Vol 1.....	35.00
Book 27 Whitcomb Locomotives.....	35.00	Book 46 Browning Locomotive Cranes Vol 3.....	35.00
Book 28 Westinghouse-Equipped Locomotives Vol 1 Diesel-Electrics 10-80 Tons.....	35.00	Book 47 General Motors Diesel Locomotives Vol 2.....	35.00
Book 29 Railway Electrification Vol 2 PRR & Cleveland Union Terminal.....	35.00	Book 48 Railway Electrification Vol 3 GN & Milwaukee Road.....	35.00
Book 30 Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Diesel-Electric Locomotives.....	35.00	Book 49 Standard Tank Car Company Vol 1.....	35.00
Book 31 Passenger Cars Vol 1 Bethlehem Steel & Pressed Steel Car Co.....	35.00	Book 50 Milwaukee Gasoline Locomotives & Brookville Locomotives.....	35.00
Book 32 General Electric Diesel-Electric Locomotives.....	35.00	Book 51 Baldwin Locomotive Works Vol 1.....	35.00
Book 33 Vulcan Locomotives Vol 2 Steam & Diesel Locomotives.....	35.00	Book 52 Railroad Cranes Vol 2 Atlantic Equip, Orton, Terry, Tractor Shovel.....	35.00
Book 34 Atlas Electric Locomotives.....	35.00	Book 53 Railway Structures: Brownhoist, McClintic Marshall & Ogle Const.....	35.00
Book 35 Railroad Cranes Vol 1 Burro, Byers, Lambert & P&H.....	35.00	Book 54 Vulcan Locomotives Vol 3.....	35.00
Book 36 Heisl Locomotives Vol 2 Geared Locomotives.....	35.00	Book 55 Budd RDCs Vol 2.....	35.00
Book 37 Fairbanks-Morse Locomotives Vol 1 Diesels.....	35.00	Book 56 Industrial Brownhoist Corp. Vol 2 Cranes & Frt Handling Equip.....	35.00
Book 38 Lakewood Cars Industrial Cars & Factory Trucks.....	35.00	Book 57 Arthur Koppel Narrow Gauge Railway Materials.....	35.00
Book 39 Plymouth Locomotives Vol 2.....	35.00	Book 58 Buses: Flexible, Mack, Greyhound, GM & Yellow Coach.....	35.00
Book 40 Davenport Locomotive Works Vol 1.....	35.00	Book 59 Magor & National Railroad Cars.....	35.00
Book 41 St Louis Car Company City Cars.....	35.00	Book 60 Alco Locomotives Vol 2 Light Loco Parts.....	35.00
Book 42 Ingersoll-Rand Locomotives Vol 2.....	35.00		

Check our website for 24 additional Manufacturers' Catalog Archive Books available now!



Ron's Books
www.ronsbooks.com

P.O. BOX 714, HARRISON, NY 10528 • ronsbooks@aol.com
(914)967-7541 11AM to 10PM EST FAX (914)967-7492 24HR
Dealer Inquiries Welcome.

All orders U.S. funds only. NY & CT res. add sales tax. Print name, address and phone. Credit card users add card number, CVC code & expiration date. Allow 4 weeks delivery. All foreign orders sent airmail and billed accordingly. Checks payable to Ron's Books.

Dreyfuss Hudson in O from MTH Trains



O — MTH Trains has a new production of New York Central's famous streamlined 4-6-4 Dreyfuss steam locomotive arriving in O-gauge this spring. This production includes variations in the driver styles to match the look at different times in this Hudson's career and there are several paint schemes and road numbers in this release, which retails for around \$1,400. This O-gauge offering comes with digital control, sound, and LED lighting.

MTH Trains, mthtrains.com

Above and Below: There are two driver styles offered on this MTH Trains O-gauge Dreyfuss Hudson: Scullin (as shown on the top pictured example) and Boxpox (shown on the second-from-the-top example). There are several New York Central liveries in this release (above), including two looks (below) exclusively offered by New York's TrainWorld.



United Northwest Model Railroad Club Presents:
31st Washington State Model Train Show & Marketplace
Benefitting the Snohomish County 4-H Foundation

February 24th & 25th, 2024

Evergreen State Fairgrounds • Monroe, WA
Doors Open at 10:00am Each Day



www.facebook.com/unwclub
www.unwclub.com/unwshow

Linde flatcar with Ford F-100 load from The N Scale Enthusiast



N — The N Scale Enthusiast announces two limited-edition releases being produced in collaboration with Atlas and Micro-Trains. The releases include Linde Union Carbide branding and feature a 50-foot flatcar with

two Ford F-100 truck loads. These offerings are available exclusively from The N Scale Enthusiast and sell for \$59.50 each.

The N Scale Enthusiast, nscaleenthusiast.com

N-Scale

MARCH / APRIL 2024

N-Scale Magazine is a bi-monthly magazine devoted exclusively to N scale, featuring Layouts, Dioramas, Nn3, DCC, Electronics, Painting & Weathering, 3D Printing, Scratchbuilding, Kitbashing, Reviews, New Products and so much more.

Begin the new year in N scale and let us help you build a layout or learn new detailing techniques. Subscribe today at www.nscalemagazine.com

PLATINUM RAIL
PUBLICATIONS

5811 75th Avenue NE Marysville, WA 98270
360-658-2485

AERO-CAR

HOBBY LUBRICANTS

These model train mechanics just received a fresh order of Aero-Car Train Lubes to maintain their equipment.

Have you placed your order yet?

708-246-9027

www.achlubes.com

Every era, every scale!

Trainz.com

Downsizing?

Sellmytrains.com

1-866-285-5840

Ztrack

Subscribe

Print or Digital

The magazine for Z scale model railroading! Six issues per year. \$36.00 annually (\$46.00 Canada, \$56.00 International).

Ztrack Magazine, Ltd.
6142 Northcliff Blvd.
Dublin, OH 43016
(614) 764-1703

www.ztrack.com

Electro-Motive's GP35

by Tony Cook with images from the Kevin EuDaly collection



Above: Santa Fe 2858 at Frederick, Kan., on the Little River subdivision. Like most second-generation EMD offerings, GP35s often enjoyed long careers. This 1990 view finds this veteran rolling long hood forward and moving a short string of covered hoppers. — *Tom Carlson photo, Kevin EuDaly collection*

Below: Union Pacific 747 at Denver, Colo., on April 8, 1972. Note the rerail frogs mounted to both trucks on this unit. All the road names present on these pages are included in Broadway Limited Imports' first production of HO-scale GP35 models. — *John Tudek photo, Kevin EuDaly collection*





Left: Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) 3572 inspires the modeler to undertake a weathering project with Broadway Limited's new HO GP35. The combined roster of Baltimore & Ohio and C&O included a bit more than 80 examples of EMD's GP35. By the 1970s, Western Maryland's five GP35s would join those units in Chessie System service. — *Camille Chappuis photo, Kevin EuDaly collection*



Above: Southern Pacific 6615 rests between assignments with a U25B at Indio, Calif., on April 23, 1972. SP and Santa Fe topped the charts for ownership of EMD GP35s with each buying more than 150. When adding in Cotton Belt subsidiary's 22 GP35s to SP's 160, this made up the largest fleet in operation. — *Photographer unknown, Kevin EuDaly collection*



Right: Decked out in flashy CP Rail repaint, Canadian Pacific 5011 works a night shift in October 1976. Canadian GP35s differed in appearance a bit from their U.S. cousins. Canadian National sampled only two GP35s, while CP accumulated two dozen for its roster. — *Jim Boyd photo, Kevin EuDaly collection*



Then and Now

Paragon 4 GP35s from Broadway Limited Imports





Left and Above: Broadway Limited Imports delivers its first production of HO-scale GP35 diesel locomotive models with a variety of examples covering this four-axle unit's appearances from as-delivered in the early 1960s to contemporary era.

Review by Tony Cook
Model Photos by Pamela Varney

**Broadway Limited Imports HO-scale
GP35 diesel locomotive
Paragon 4 DCC-sound**

Chicago, Burlington & Quincy 992
7532, \$399.99

BNSF 2903
7532, \$399.99

Broadway Limited Imports
broadway-limited.com

Electro-Motive Division's (EMD) GP35 comes to Broadway Limited Imports' (BLI) line with an all-new HO-scale effort. This ready-to-run offering reproduces EMD's four-axle road unit that was the follow-up to the GP30 (also arriving from BLI in HO). This 2,500-hp locomotive was in production from mid-1963 to early 1966. According to the online reference EMD's GP35 - Original Owners (trainweb.org/jaydeet/gp35.htm) by David Thompson, U.S. sales included 1,250 examples with 26 going to Canada, and 57 sold to Mexico. The majority owners in the U.S. were Southern Pacific/Cotton Belt, Santa Fe, and Pennsylvania Railroad.



This review examines two BLI GP35s equipped with Digital Command Control (DCC) and sound sold under the manufacturer's Paragon 4 brand. The red Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (CB&Q) 992 reproduces a Phase Ib3 GP35 delivered in fall 1964. CB&Q bought 22 examples (978-999) delivered from late 1963 to late 1964. The modern-day BNSF unit was a GP35 and shows modifications (now labeled a GP39E by the railroad) made to this long-serving veteran. The unit began with Great Northern in 1965, moved to Burlington Northern in 1970, and on to BNSF in 1996.

Broadway Limited nails the classic Chinese Red livery worn by most Burlington Route diesels during the 1960s. The model comes equipped with the correct nose-mounted headlight, firecracker antenna, air horns placed in the rear around the radiator fans, angled metal cab shades, and MU connector present on the pilot (front and rear). About the only spotting feature I flagged were the front and rear handrails. While accurately presented in black, the model includes a chain connection between center stanchions with black drop step... CB&Q was a

Above and Below: Chicago, Burlington & Quincy 998 (above) shows the second-to-last GP35 added to the road's roster in late 1964. This is a Phase Ib3 GP35, while 982 (below) is a Phase Ia2 delivered in March 1964. Compare the decoration and details and you'll find BLI has recreated this classic 1960s unit well in HO scale. — *Stuart J. Sutton photos, Kevin EuDaly collection*





Above and Below: This is a classic livery that can entice anyone into being a Burlington Route enthusiast. The paint and lettering work is excellent with the "F" designating front, GP35 label, oval builder's plate, and "Fuel" label present along the sill. Note the jacking pads over the trucks are accented in black (as per prototype). The cab includes separately applied wipers and wind deflector panels. The cab includes interior detail with painted crew figure at the controls.

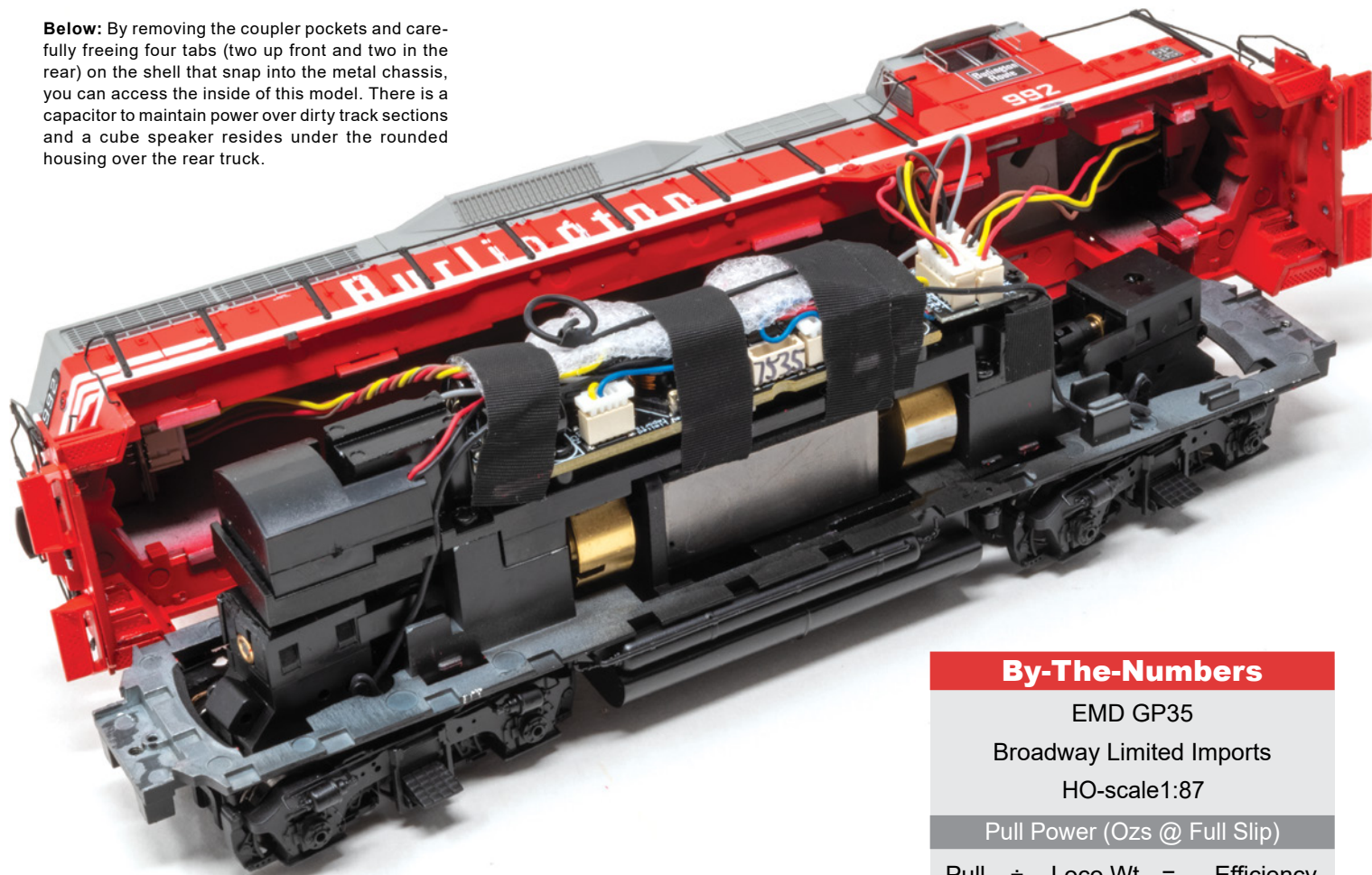
rare railroad that omitted this walkway access between its diesel locomotives. I had missed this, but my dad asked about it during his inspection of this sample. When I checked pictures of the prototypes it was confirmed the hand-rails on the ends should be unbroken and straight with no chained section.

Otherwise, this is a great-looking GP35.

The black and orange BNSF release is very impressive and demonstrates BLI flexing its modeling muscle. This effort is barely recognizable as having been a GP35 and shows an array of revisions and additions. The model comes equipped with functioning ditch lights (front and rear), accurate light cut into the nose, plated upper headlight region between the number boards, the 36-inch fan is absent (per prototype) between the two 48-inch fans on the rear of the long hood, and more. Added



Below: By removing the coupler pockets and carefully freeing four tabs (two up front and two in the rear) on the shell that snap into the metal chassis, you can access the inside of this model. There is a capacitor to maintain power over dirty track sections and a cube speaker resides under the rounded housing over the rear truck.



By-The-Numbers

EMD GP35

Broadway Limited Imports

HO-scale 1:87

Pull Power (Ozs @ Full Slip)

Pull	÷	Loco Wt	=	Efficiency
2.7		14.5		18.6%

DCC

Throttle Setting	Scale MPH
Min	1.8
Mid	30.1
Top	84.7

details are abundant and include twin white air conditioner units on the cab roof with a skate-type antenna on a raised plate behind the cab. Air horns appear in the appropriate position on the long hood roofline, the coupler cut lever includes upturned handles, and plow is present on the front pilot.

I found the assembly work to be flawless, as I inspected this pair after carefully removing them from their clear clamshell protective cases housed in a bed of foam inside a sturdy two-piece cardboard box. The paint application on the red and gray Burlington unit and black and orange BNSF model



Above: BLI's Burlington GP35 (left) presents the look of the prototype when new in the mid-1960s, while the modified BNSF GP39E (right) shows what became of a Great Northern GP35. These HO models come with DCC and sound.

Below: Loaded with details depicting this contemporary BNSF GP39E, BLI's HO model is a winner. Check out the modified brake detail in place of the crank brake inset area on the nose.



was smooth and thin enough to avoid fuzzing any of the fine details on the plastic body shells. Striping and lettering were equally well executed. The CB&Q model includes an oval builder's plate and a black with silver GP35 label up front over the lead truck. The BNSF unit includes the various contemporary warning and identification labels on the hood, nose, and pilot stepwells.

This new HO-scale GP35 is a high mark for Broadway Limited Imports. Take a look at the By-The-Numbers data to see pulling power and scale speed measurements. I was very pleased with this addition to the hobby company's line and pleasantly surprised by the deep dive taken to create this rebuilt GP35 as seen today on BNSF's roster. There are two road numbers offered for each road name. Broadway Limited has a new HO-scale GP30 that shipped not long after the arrival of these GP35s; watch for a review on it soon. **MRN**



Above: The rear shows the lack of footboards on the pilot, and blanked-out number boards with road number present below in the orange band. The modifications included removing the small center radiator fan on the rear roofline.

Quiet, Dependable Transportation Stealth GP35 from Broadway Limited Imports



Review by Tony Cook
Model Photos by Pamela Varney

**Broadway Limited Imports HO-scale
GP35 diesel locomotive
Stealth Series, standard DC
Union Pacific 743
8229, \$299.99**

Broadway Limited Imports
broadway-limited.com

Broadway Limited Imports (BLI) includes a sound-ready, standard DC release for its HO-scale GP35 diesel locomotive model. This Stealth Series offering comes equipped with a prewired speaker and the circuitry possesses a 21-pin socket (with dummy plug from the factory for DC operation) for the potential conversion to Digital Command Control (DCC). The group of road names produced is the same between this Stealth Series GP35 and BLI's DCC-sound Paragon 4 GP35. For the Paragon 4 group, you'll find two road numbers per road name; one of those road numbers appears again

Above: This is the as-delivered appearance for Union Pacific's GP35. Broadway Limited Imports offers UP 743 in the manufacturer's recently introduced Stealth Series. This is also from Broadway Limited's first production of HO-scale GP35 diesel locomotive models and reproduces a 1960s prototype.

in the non-sound Stealth GP35. For example, this review's Union Pacific (UP) 743 road number is also in the Paragon 4 offerings, along with a second DCC-sound option (UP 757).

Union Pacific purchased two dozen Electro-Motive Division (EMD) GP35s with 22 units (740-761) built in mid-1964; the other two (762 and 763) were built in mid-1963 and originally served in the General Motors demonstrator set paired with the double-diesel DD35. BLI's tooling depicts several production phase variations for this early second-generation four-axle road unit. Spotting features on this 1:87 replica include three latches located on the upper portion of the long hood access doors beneath the dynamic brake blister, and the area below the number boards and headlight over the windshields is straight with no bulge for the headlight (as found on the Burlington and BNSF units

reviewed in this issue). All the GP35s reviewed are categorized as Phase I models. Subphases denote additional variation to EMD's GP35s built from 1963 into 1965. The Phase II GP35 was in production from approximately April through December 1965. The majority of UP's GP35s were Phase Ib1 (the ex-demonstrators were Phase Ia1).

BLI's move to expand its offerings to again include a non-DCC release came at the behest of hobbyists. The company makes its Stealth Series ready for standard DC use, while offering easy conversion to digital.

Unpacking this Union Pacific GP35, which came in a two-piece cardboard box with the model encased in a plastic clamshell (itself surrounded by foam), I encountered a good-looking specimen of this well-known EMD Geep. The model is fully assembled with no parts included for user application. I looked



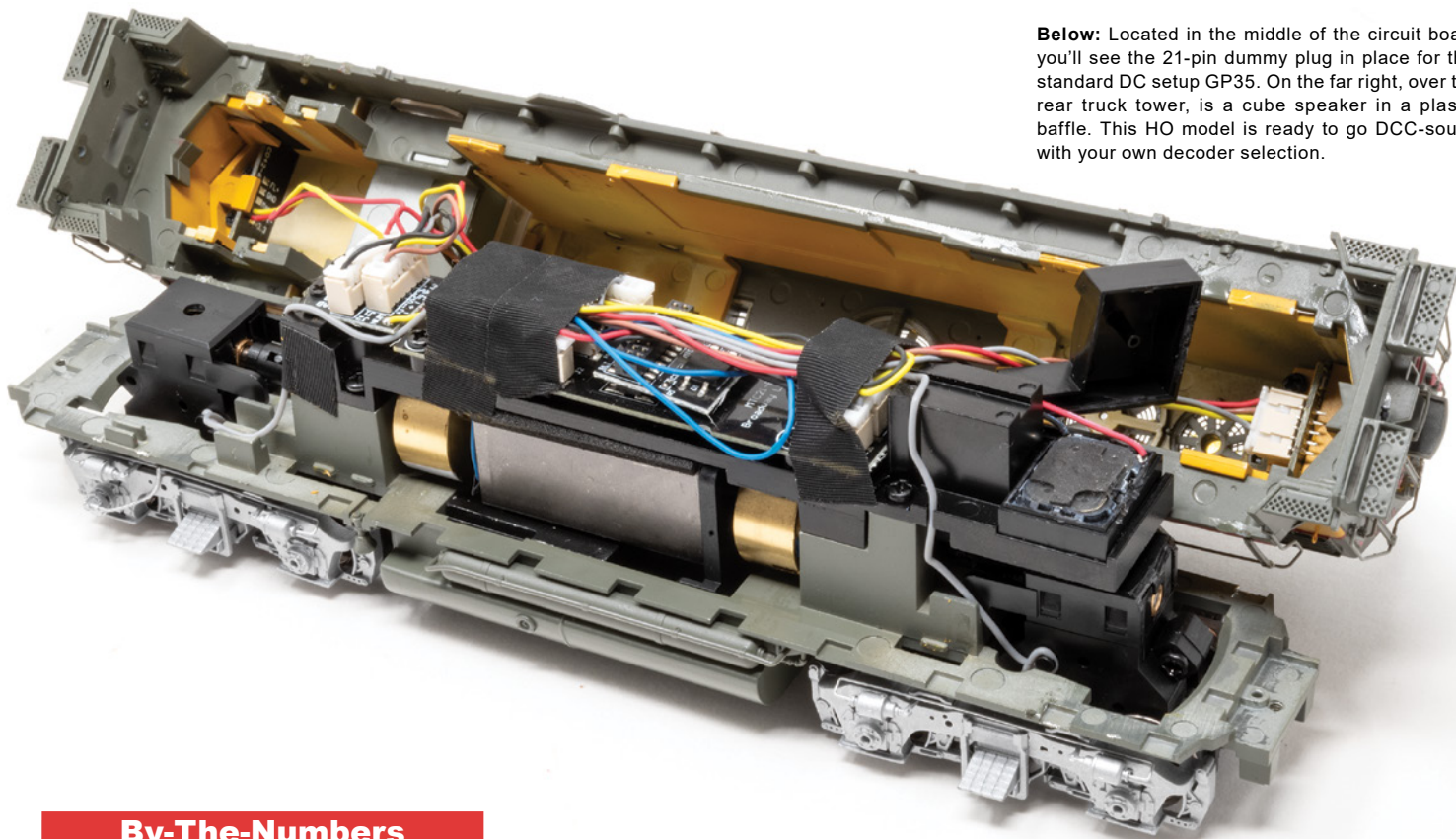
Above: The cab includes wind deflectors on each side of the silver-framed windows. A cloth-type cab shade appears over each cab window. The detail on the cab roof is the base for the whip-style antenna.

over the plastic body shell and saw no defects present to detract from the solid appearance of this HO effort. The model includes flexible handrails with a drop step on the end pilots. These are promoted as road-accurate releases, though UP's GP35s were fairly basic with respect to their appointments. The model does appear to hit the desired marks. The paint, striping, and lettering all reproduce an authentic UP look. The unit is gray with a center band of Armour Yellow separated by red stripes. The top of the nose includes UP's non-reflective green paint. The Blomberg trucks appear in silver. Note

the style of the numerals — on the cab and long hood, as well as on the number boards — present the famous UP style. According to Don Strack's excellent Utah Rails online resource (utahrails.net), these GP35s enjoyed about a decade of use, with Union Pacific retiring them in the mid-1980s. As shown on this BLI rendering, the lettering and details possess the 1960s era with "Dependable Transportation" slogan on the cab sides. The whip antenna base on the cab roof, air horn placement on the back of the long hood roof, cloth-type cab shades, and twin standup MU connectors (front and

Below: Union Pacific 758 at Colton, Calif., on July 11, 1974, shows the details and production phase offered by Broadway Limited for its HO model. — Charles Reed photo, Kevin EuDaly collection





Below: Located in the middle of the circuit board you'll see the 21-pin dummy plug in place for this standard DC setup GP35. On the far right, over the rear truck tower, is a cube speaker in a plastic baffle. This HO model is ready to go DCC-sound with your own decoder selection.

By-The-Numbers

EMD GP35

Broadway Limited Imports

HO-scale 1:87

Pull Power (Ozs @ Full Slip)

Pull	÷	Loco Wt	=	Efficiency
2.8		14.5		19.3%

DC (Starting Volts = 1.3)

Volts	Amps	Scale MPH
1.5	.06	2.1
6.5	.11	31.0
12.0	.15	83.0

back) duplicate the era the model is decorated for. There's a speed recorder cable running from the lead truck, lift rings across the long hood roof, separate sand filler hatches (front and rear), tread pattern walkway, and much more.

The wheels all checked out to be in gauge and the coupler height was within the range for compatibility. BLI includes a metal spring-equipped knuckle coupler with a generous shank. This is fine for operations around curves down to 18-inch radius,

though if you have wider curves on your railroad I recommend a swap for a shorter shank coupler to improve the appearance of this locomotive. Under standard DC power, I found this sample's performance similar to the pulling power and scale speed range of BLI's DCC-sound GP35s. If you never convert to digital operation, this release provides you an HO diesel locomotive that runs very well. If you have a decoder standard on your railroad, this unit is ready to join your roster with an easy conversion.





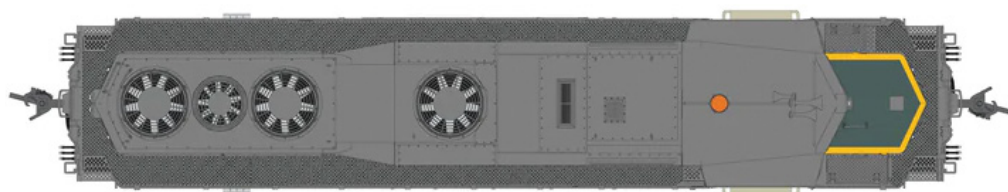
To pair up with this GP35, Broadway Limited shipped HO GP30s not long after this model's debut. The company also offers EMD's six-axle SD40 and SD45 models; together, these options provide the modeler with a popular group of prototypes that reigned from the early 1960s and beyond.

This is a well-executed rendering from BLI. The model performs well and looks great. I'm a fan of EMD's second-generation motive power, as many readers certainly must be too. I think you'll agree it is a positive for the hobby to have this GP35 addition. The other road names in this first release are BNSF; Canadian Pacific (CP Rail livery); Chesapeake & Ohio; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Santa Fe (Yellowbonnet); New York Central (only release in the group to be a non-dynamic brake GP35); Pennsylvania Railroad; Southern Pacific; and Southern Railway. **MRN**



Above: Air horns appear on the long hood between the first and second radiator fans. The end pilot includes a pair of standup MU connections, each with two red receptacle covers. The model includes gray walkway surrounding the hoods.

Below: This illustration shows the look of Broadway Limited Imports' new HO-scale GP30 as it will be decorated and detailed for Union Pacific. This look is accurate from around 1980 forward. Check with your hobby dealer for availability.



One of Three

Western Pacific SW1500 from Athearn



Review by Tony Cook

**Athearn HO-scale
SW1500 diesel locomotive
DCC-sound**

**Western Pacific 1502
ATH28754, \$319.99**

Athearn
athearn.com

Athearn delivers an enhanced SW1500 diesel locomotive model with the arrival of a collection that shipped in late 2023. This powered HO-scale reproduction has been among the manufacturer's Ready To Roll series for more than a dozen years. This release, announced in late 2021, comes packaged in a Ready To Roll box, though changes to the company's branding make this simply an Athearn-named release going forward. In addition to past upgrades, which provided the plastic body with separately applied wire grab irons, cab interior, and other

Above: Introduced in the mid-1960s by EMD, the SW1500 diesel switcher was a common roster member for many railroads and some industrial operators. Athearn's latest HO-scale SW1500 includes all three road numbers owned by Western Pacific. New for this production, you can have Digital Command Control and SoundTraxx Tsunami2 audio as a factory-installed features. Western Pacific 1502 shows an as-delivered early/mid-1970s appearance and comes fully assembled.

amenities, the lighting (front and rear headlights) is LED for the first time. This production adds factory-installed Digital Command Control (DCC) and sound for the first time. Though not aiming for the same exacting standards as the company's Genesis line, this fully assembled SW1500 includes road-accurate features for the road names in this release: Burlington Northern, Conrail, Cotton Belt, Western Pacific (WP), and Wisconsin Central. You can also find undecorated SW1500s in Southern Pacific/Cotton Belt configuration and a standard body shell offered in standard DC and with DCC-sound. This review shares Athearn's Western Pacific 1502 release.

WP Wanted Eight

According to a September/October 2005 *Diesel Era* article, Western Pacific

planned to purchase eight SW1500s from Electro-Motive Division (EMD) in 1970 (the model joined the diesel builder's catalog in 1966 and saw production through 1974). Railroad management found more pressing need for high-horsepower freight-moving motive power and opted for 10 GP40s; aging Alco and Baldwin diesel switchers continued to toil for a bit longer. In 1972, the SW1500 returned to WP's budget, though the order was reduced to three examples (1501-1503). The trio came equipped with Flexicoil trucks and 1,100-gallon fuel tanks. In addition, MU receptacles were ordered and placed on front and back of the units. WP's SW1500s also came with full side handrails. The *Diesel Era* article notes these switchers served Western Pacific in the Oakland/San Francisco, Calif., area. When WP merged into



Union Pacific's system in late 1982, the switchers remained in the Bay Area, initially retaining their WP road numbers but receiving Union Pacific paint and lettering. In later years, the three were renumbered several times.

Athearn Offers Them All

In this production, Athearn reproduces an as-delivered appearance for Western Pacific and includes all three road numbers in this release.

Details included to represent this WP prototype include a single air horn (though some later pictures do show 1503 received a five-chime air horn), firecracker antenna, and angled cab sunshades. I find the rendition of Perlman Green looks pleasing and accurate (and matched well with other Athearn WP motive power in my collection). The lettering appears to capture the typeface of the prototype well and is the proper size and its

Above: Western Pacific 1502 is two months old in this July 1973 view at Oakland, Calif. In this near factory-fresh state, you can clearly pick out all the orange color accents on the pilots and other locations on this SW1500. Note the downturned coupler cut lever with handrail above on the pilot. — *Thomas Chenoweth photo, Kevin EuDaly collection*

Below: This four-axle EMD SW1500 switcher joined Athearn's line in the early 1990s, along with an SW1000, as a blue box kit. This contemporary Athearn SW1500 is vastly different from those original efforts. Today's model includes separate grab irons, pilot and interior detail, and now adds LED lighting and Digital Command Control and sound with this release.





Ready for yard work or local runs, Western Pacific 1502 is a great-looking HO-scale diesel switcher from Athearn. Note the open radiator grilles on the hood roof, EMD logo on the Flexicoil trucks, red highlights around the fuel tank, and more. This release adds LED lighting, DCC-sound, and a new can motor. The new motor was quiet and made virtually no noise during operation. The standard DC SW1500 (with a 21-pin socket for digital conversion) retails for \$219.99. This DCC-sound SW1500 is equipped with SoundTraxx Tsunami2 and carries a \$319.99 suggested retail price.



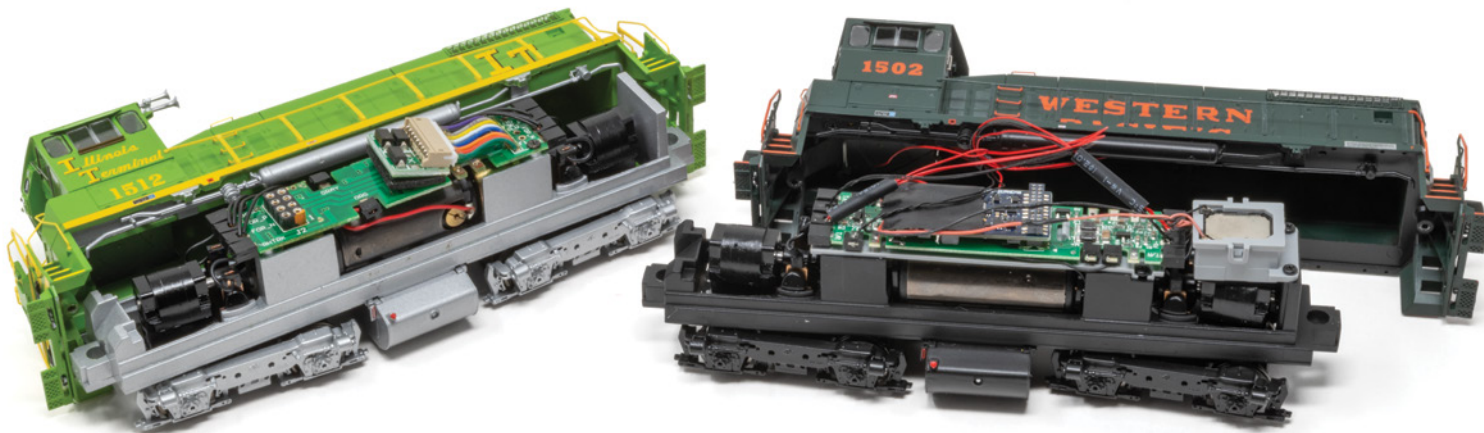


placement is correct. You'll see small warning labels present on the hood and cab sides. The fuel filler and other items around the tanks and along the sill are accented with red. The marker lights include silver paint representing their lenses. The number boards (on the nose and cab rear) include accurate black background with numerals in the proper WP typeface. The bell rides on the hood roof just ahead of the exhaust stacks, and this detail is presented with a brass hue that looks correct. The pilots include footboards with orange edges, MU and trainline hoses around the coupler (a plastic scale-head McHenry example), and with a long pilot handrail over the coupler cut lever (a downturned handle style example). Athearn includes a pair of upturned coupler cut levers, in color-matched Perlman Green, bagged and supplied in the box with the model. These later-era cut levers would allow the modeler to portray the look of the second half of the 1970s. My dad pointed out the footboards would require removal to more accurately make this a late-era look (the footboards are separate pieces and could be removed). The cab

Above: Western Pacific 1501 working the yard at Oakland, Calif., on May 7, 1978. Note the revised pilot details at this point in the switcher's career. The footboards across the base of the pilot have been removed, while the top edge of the pilot now has notched corners and an upturned coupler cut lever. The pilot handrail that originally resided above the cut lever has been removed. — *Photographer unknown, Kevin EuDaly collection*

Below: Athearn provides its HO-scale SW1500 Western Pacific releases with an appearance resembling the prototype's early years of service. The pilot includes footboards, downturned coupler cut lever with handrail above. There's an MU receptacle on the rear walkway, metal wipers on the upper windshields (this detail is also present on the front of the cab), and a firecracker-type antenna mounted to the roof.





By-The-Numbers

EMD SW1500

Athearn

HO-scale 1:87

Pull Power (Ozs @ Full Slip)

Pull	÷	Loco Wt	=	Efficiency
2.0		8.9		22.5%

DCC SoundTraxx Tsunami2

Throttle Setting	Scale MPH
Min	1.7
Mid	106.2
Top	141.7

Above: This HO-scale SW1500 comes with LED lighting and DCC-sound for the first time with this production. The light green Illinois Terminal (left) is from a past production; compare the can motor on it with the new larger motor provided for this Western Pacific model (right) delivered in late 2023. The circuit board is revised on the new model and provides a 21-pin connection for its DCC decoder. The cube speaker is enclosed in a gray plastic baffle mounted over the lead truck. I encountered no challenges accessing the mechanism. You remove the front and rear couplers and the shell slides off easily, revealing the motor and electronics.

Left and Right: During my examination of this SW1500 model, I saw the SoundTraxx-made electronics provide for two operational setups. On left, you see my results for scale speed with a 128-step DCC throttle. By selecting F14 on your DCC controller, you enter a half-speed and momentum override setting; speed measurements for this setting appear at right.

By-The-Numbers

EMD SW1500

Athearn

HO-scale 1:87

Pull Power (Ozs @ Full Slip)

Pull	÷	Loco Wt	=	Efficiency
2.0		8.9		22.5%

DCC SoundTraxx Tsunami2

Throttle Setting	Scale MPH
Min	0.9
Mid	42.7
Top	96.8

includes interior detail presented in an accurate reproduction of the light green EMD used. The cab windows are flush-fitting, clear plastic sections and include black paint borders to suggest gaskets surrounding the glass. There are two thin metal wipers present on the appropriate front and rear windows. The workmanship on the added grab irons was excellent, and the handrails were straight all around the unit. I noticed the prototype includes three orange grabs on the forward cab face on the engineer's side, and these are absent on Athearn's model.

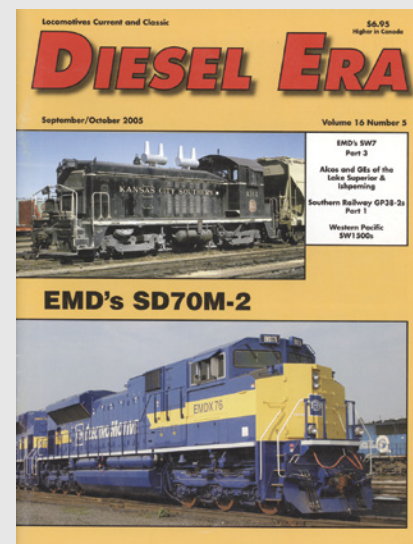
The innards possess a new can motor for this run with the aim of reducing noise and providing more power. I found the performance was smooth and low-end crawl was measured down to below 1 mph (using the F14 drive setting, see By-The-Numbers above), though the top speed seems a bit more than necessary for a switcher.

The headlights are powered by LED, as are ground lights (located on the un-

derside of the frame over the rear axle on both sides of the unit). I like the look of the clear headlight color and when F0 is pressed the illumination fades in or out in an authentic style. You may need to squint to make out the ground lights. I was beginning think this model lacked ground lights, but turning it over I saw the small yellowish square LEDs. In a nearly dark room, I was able to see them. They are not controllable (like the headlight); when track power is engaged, the ground lights are on. An exploded parts diagram and Tsunami2 guide is included with this release. SoundTraxx's digital audio was excellent coming from the cube-type speaker, and I appreciated the F9 half volume function being included.

Western Pacific's 1970s SW1500s are all available in this run and this example represented them well. Athearn is keeping this classic model current with this latest release. **MRN**

Review Reference



You'll find Western Pacific's SW1500 roster documented in *Diesel Era*'s September/October 2005 edition (Volume 16, Number 5). Back issues prior to 2021 can be purchased from Withers Publishing at: withersrrbooks.com.

Postwar 40-footer

Southern Pacific Lines boxcars from Tangent Scale Models



Review by Tony Cook

Tangent Scale Models HO-scale

Pullman-Standard SP Lines
40-foot 6-inch boxcar with 7-foot door

Cotton Belt 33927 (as-delivered 1951)
23122-10, \$52.95

Southern Pacific 103526
(1960s repaint)
23123-05, \$52.95

SP Sacramento Shops Rebuilt
40-foot 6-inch boxcar with 10-foot door
23060-01, \$52.95

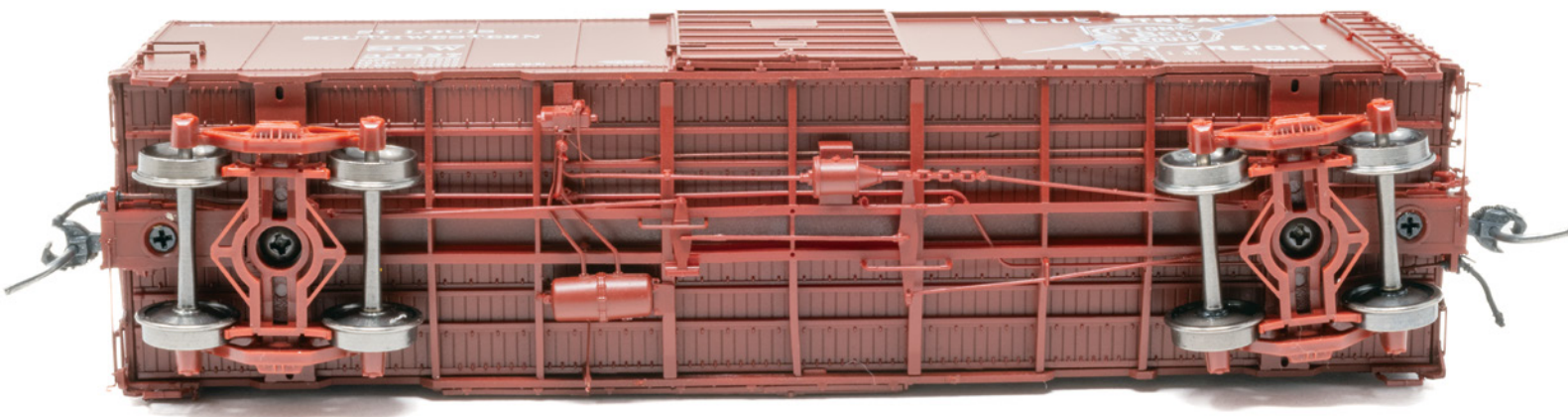
Tangent Scale Models
tangentmodel.com

A 40-foot boxcar is a common fixture of many model railroad operations and collections. Tangent Scale Models stakes out a series of Southern Pacific (SP) prototypes with a level of quality you've never experienced in HO scale. If you have a Blue Streak labeled Cotton Belt 40-footer on your pike or in your collection... it's not like the one shared in this review.

This production launched in mid-2023 with the 1950s era Pullman-Standard built 40-foot 6-inch sliding door boxcars added to Southern Pacific Lines (including Cotton Belt and Texas & New Orleans) between 1950 and 1953. There are several detail variations among this group. The follow-up offering was a Sacramento Shops Rebuild

Above: These HO-scale boxcars represent two of the 12 new additions to Tangent Scale Models' line in 2023. The Southern Pacific and Cotton Belt (left and center) are postwar Pullman-Standard 40-foot 6-inch boxcars with 7-foot sliding door. The modern Southern Pacific (right) is a 1960s era Sacramento Shops Rebuild boxcar with 10-foot sliding door.

Below: The underbody detail is excellent on Tangent Scale Models' recently released Southern Pacific Lines boxcars. The ready-to-run HO replica includes near-scale draft gear with screw-mounted Kadee scale-head metal knuckle couplers. The model rides on 33-inch metal wheels mounted in accurate ASF 50-ton A-3 Ride Control trucks presented in matching hue to the body color. The ends include coupler cut lever and trainline hose.





Above: There are three running board styles for this series of Southern Pacific Lines boxcars and these examples feature the Morton style. The SP boxcar (foreground) has a Youngstown door, while the Cotton Belt car (background) is equipped with a 7-panel Superior-style sliding door.



Above: An example of the classic 40-foot boxcar at its most modern is this Sacramento Shops Rebuild replica. Note the running boards are gone, the brake is lowered, ladders are trimmed down, and the sill features a newly added dip to accommodate the bigger door (10 feet wide). This HO offering replicates the appearance of these roster members as they went into service between 1968 and 1970.



that Southern Pacific forces made from those early 1950s freight cars. For these 1960s era replicas, Tangent offers a version retaining running boards (mid-1960s) and a later example (featured in this review) depicting the cars from 1968 to 1970 with no running boards and other modifications.

These are exquisite HO boxcars. I'd been wanting that 10-foot door modern SP boxcar with the yellow door stripe for many years. As I opened this replica and took a look... it was worth the wait! The second most wanted for me was

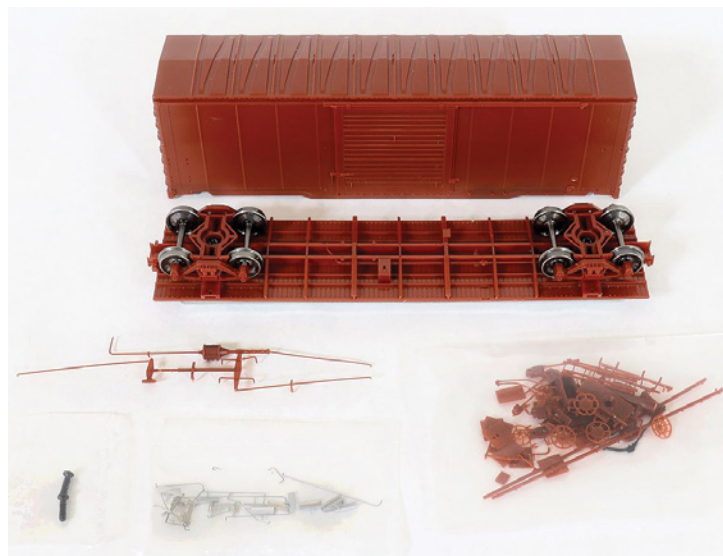
Tangent's Blue Streak-emblazoned Cotton Belt release.

The boxcars weigh 4.7 to 4.8 ounces, coupler height was dead-on, and all wheels were in gauge. I encountered no defects among this group. One sample came from Tangent Scale Models and the other two were acquired and received via mail order from Lombard Hobbies (lombardhobby.com) and Spring Creek Model Trains (springcreekmodeltrains.com). The assembly work and fit of the many separate parts (including variations to door tracks,

Above: This Southern Pacific boxcar replica reproduces a 1950-built Pullman-Standard freight car with a trip through the road's paint shop in 1960. While the boxcar retains its 7-foot door (Youngstown-type), running boards (Morton-style), and other attributes of its as-built appearance, this sans serif presentation of the road's name allows this B-50-28 class car to be applicable for operations striving for authentic 1960s and 1970s railroading. There are six road numbers in this production for this SP 1960 repaint boxcar.



Above: This collection of Southern Pacific Lines boxcars includes the road's subsidiaries St. Louis-Southwestern (known as Cotton Belt) and Texas & New Orleans (T&NO). This Cotton Belt release was a must-have for me with its eye-catching Blue Streak Fast Freight emblem. This replica provides the look of a new boxcar built in 1951 by Pullman-Standard. Details include 8-rung side and end ladders, Universal-style handbrake and housing, along with a Superior-style sliding door. The T&NO boxcar's decoration includes the round black and white Southern Pacific Lines herald with the subsidiary's reporting marks.



brake rigging, running boards, and more) was impeccable. The paint and lettering were excellent across all three.

If you're a 40-foot boxcar fanatic like me or a modeler who appreciates the finest the hobby has to offer... this is a release to seek out and own. These models are available now direct from Tangent Scale Models and participating hobby dealers. **MRN**

Above: Looking for an interesting construction project? Tangent Scale Models offers a kit with all three of the 7-foot sliding door styles, three running board types, and more. The kit (shown above left) comes with the company's smooth-rolling metal wheels mounted in ASF 50-ton ride control trucks. You supply couplers. There are two kits available from Tangent Scale Models for its Sacramento Shops Rebuild boxcar. This modernized 40-footer with wider 10-foot door (shown above) comes in a kit for the 1965 appearance (23000-01), and another kit (23050-01) provides materials to build the later 1968 prototype. These kits sell for \$50.95.

Below: The fully assembled Tangent Scale Models HO-scale replica comes in the company's familiar cardboard package. The boxcar is wrapped in clear film to protect its fine finish as it rides in a two-piece plastic inner tray during transit or storage. This boxcar sells for \$52.95 and is available now.



Fantasy Dashing Dan

Bowser Long Island RS-3 from TrainWorld



Review by Tony Cook

**Bowser Executive Line HO-scale
Alco RS-3 Phase III diesel locomotive
standard DC
Long Island 1554 (fantasy scheme)
(TrainWorld exclusive)
25986, \$159.99**

TrainWorld
trainworld.com

TrainWorld adds to its collection of exclusive releases with this attractive Long Island locomotive model in HO scale. Produced for the New York-based hobby dealer by Bowser, this fully assembled Alco RS-3 diesel locomotive replica possesses the same fine quality as the regular Executive Line offerings you'll find. What's unique is the paint scheme applied to this RS-3. In this same production, Bowser offers Long Island's fair scheme (gray with orange in similar design to this model's appearance); that effort

replicates a prototypical look for the road's RS-3. This TrainWorld offering uses blue with yellow in place of gray with orange. The blue and yellow are hues used by Long Island; however, they did not see use on the road's RS-3s as depicted for this HO model. Long Island bought 10 Alco RS-3s (1551-1560) in 1955. Looking over Bowser's later production (Phase III) RS-3s, you'll find a blue RS-3 with yellow cab sides and yellow ends with the newer Metro "M" logo offered in two road numbers: 1554 and 1558. The gray with orange older scheme RS-3s, also Phase III body style, include two road numbers: 1552 and 1553.

This was my first opportunity to examine Bowser's Phase III RS-3. The manufacturer's line of RS-3s has Stewart Hobbies heritage tooling

Above: Like other HO-scale Alco RS-3s produced by Bowser, this TrainWorld exclusive release comes fully assembled and ready for operation or display. This blue with yellow livery is a fantasy look, comes in two road numbers, and is offered in standard DC or with DCC-sound.

(Bowser acquired Stewart assets in 2004); however, this model shares little if anything with those RS-3s. The late RS-3 is easily spotted by looking for the louvers on the long hood... they aren't there. These last Alco RS-3s had screened openings versus the rows of louvers found on sections of the long hood on earlier production models. Alco's RS-series is an important part of the early diesel era and it's great that Bowser fills this gap in the RS-3's history.

The model includes separately applied grab irons, accurate air horn



By-The-Numbers

Alco RS-3

Bowser

HO-scale 1:87

Pull Power (Ozs @ Full Slip)

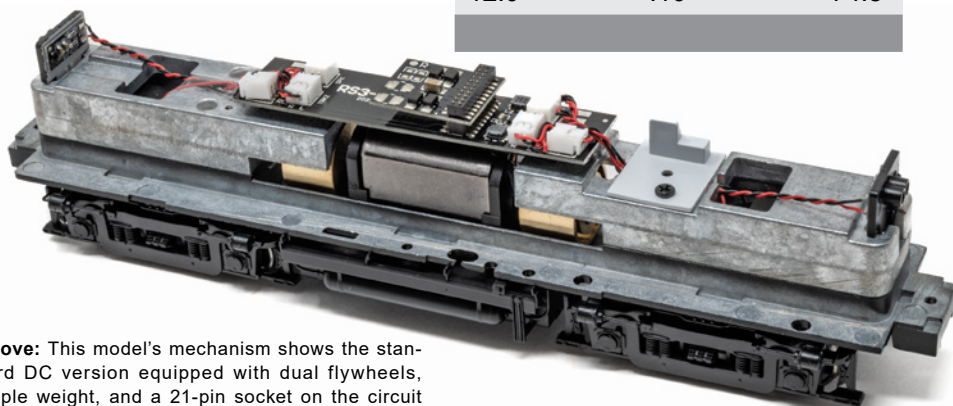
Pull	÷	Loco Wt	=	Efficiency
2.0		12		16.6%

DC (Starting Volts = 1.3)

Volts	Amps	Scale MPH
1.7	.05	1.5
6.1	.07	32.6
12.0	.10	74.8

cluster mounted on a bracket, and jeweled marker lights front and rear, among other road-specific details. Cab window material is flush, with wind deflectors present on the side windows and a rain drip protector running over the side cab windows. The pilots include see-through footboards with trainline hose and MU hoses (all with silver tips), coupler cut lever, and pilot handrail. A metal knuckle coupler (approximately the same proportion as Kadee's famous No. 5) is attached to the die-cast frame. Removing the coupler allows the plastic body shell to easily slip off and provide access to the mechanism. The lighting is LED powered and output was excellent under DC operation. This is a fun release and collectors should visit TrainWorld's website to see the many exclusive releases available. **MRN**

Above and Bottom of Page: Long Island used its Dashing Dan imagery (shown on the short hood side) to promote the road's commuter operations. The paint application on the model was excellent, with crisp separation lines between the body's blue color and the sweeping yellow band running nose to tail. This is a great looking model.



Above: This model's mechanism shows the standard DC version equipped with dual flywheels, ample weight, and a 21-pin socket on the circuit board for conversion to DCC if desired. This sample was a smooth runner, though it emitted a fair amount of motor noise at top-end speeds.



Pullman-Standard 2893 Returns from Athearn Genesis



Review by Tony Cook

**Athearn HO-scale
Genesis PS-2893 covered hopper**

**Grupo Cementos Mexicanos 1011
ATHG73618, \$54.99**

**Chessie System/B&O 628038
ATHG73614, \$54.99**

Athearn
athearn.com

Athearn's Pullman-Standard 2893 returns with a new production featuring a half-dozen road names. This three-bay covered hopper was among the early examples of this type of specialized piece of rolling stock and dates to the mid-1950s. Given its time of introduction, this 2,893-cubic-foot-capacity car is a 70-ton example; larger capacity (100 ton) covered hoppers came within a decade of this one's introduction.

For Athearn, this excellent reproduction joined the company's HO-scale freight car offerings about 20 years ago.

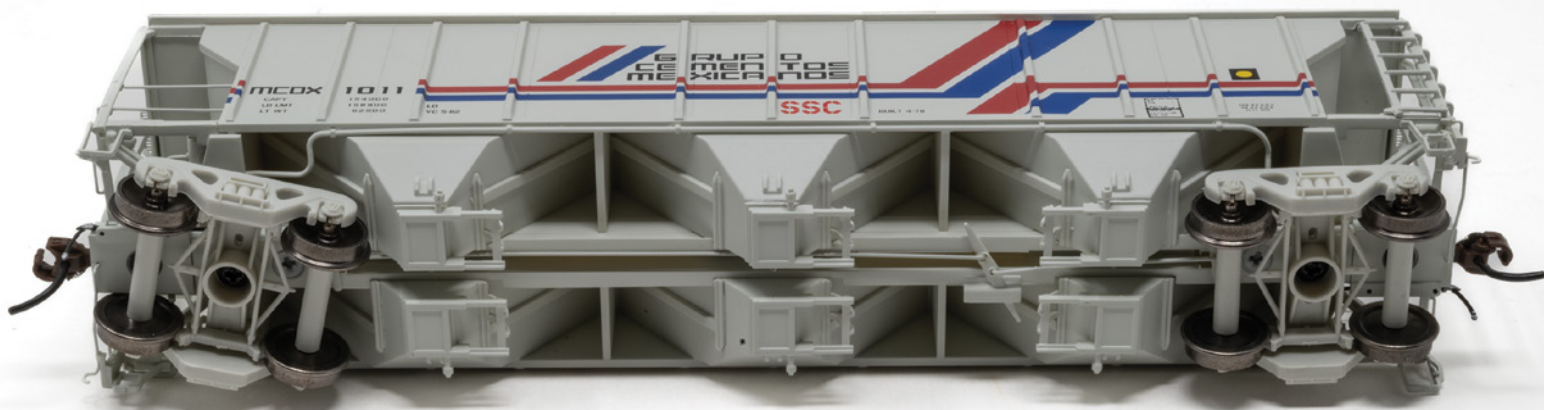
It was then an offering that I felt had about everything necessary to make the grade as a Genesis release, though it was then a Ready To Roll offering. The car possesses etched-metal, see-through roofwalks and separately applied and well-detailed roof hatches, and the grab irons are thin wire fixtures and separate from the plastic body. The brake cylinder, valve, and air reservoir are situated on the B-end on the frame and below the sloped ends of the car, and piping runs from those appliances out and around the bays on one side of the car. As stated, this is not a heritage "blue box" freight car model with much of its detail is molded on the body. A handful of years ago, Athearn added coupler cut levers and trainline hose details to this covered hopper model's attributes and it joined the high-end Genesis collection.

This production was announced in August 2022, and came close to arriving on its promised August 2023 delivery date (these shipped around the beginning of the fourth quarter 2023). The run is made of mostly

Above: Athearn's Pullman-Standard 2893 covered hopper is available in six road names; shown above are Grupo Cementos Mexicanos and Chessie System. The fully assembled HO-scale freight car replica retails for \$54.99.

gray cars, the standout burst of color coming from the Federal Yellow body with Enchantment Blue underframe on Chessie System models. This review shows Athearn's model with Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) reporting marks; the other two in the run include Chesapeake & Ohio reporting marks. The decoration is accurate for the late 1970s (with stacked COTS label and yellow wheel dot on the B&O car). Though it's a basic gray hopper, I was drawn to the Grupo Cementos Mexicanos offering thanks to its red and blue stripes and inclusion of roller bearing truck sideframes (all other cars in this run, including this review's Chessie System hopper, come with friction-style trucks). Athearn states this Mexican prototype is accurate for late 1980s operation.

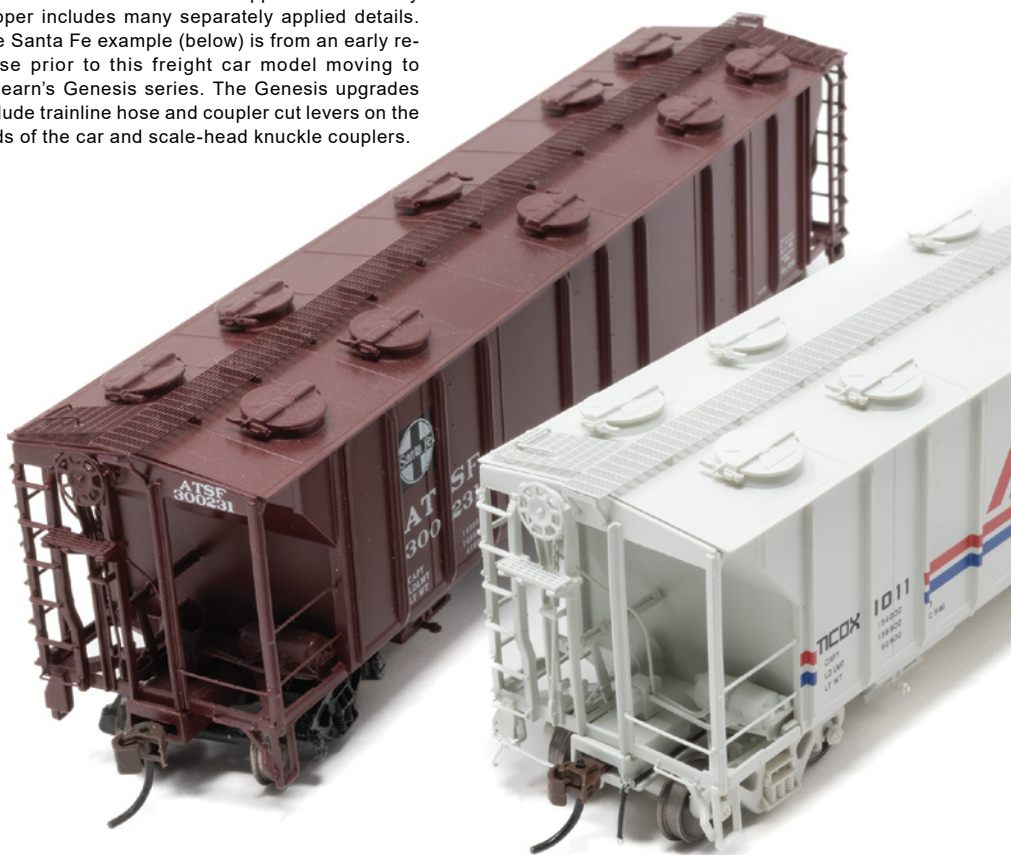
Paint and lettering were superb on both samples. The models come



packaged in a flip-top cardboard box, which is new for Athearn Genesis rolling stock offerings. I encountered no damage and no loose or missing parts on either hopper car.

I had the impression the model was light during my handling of these samples. When placed on a scale, I found these covered hopper cars weigh 3.8 ounces each, which is closer to the NMRA recommendation (a bit more than 4 ounces) for a car of this length. The metal wheels checked to be in gauge; both samples ride on 33-inch examples as this is a 70-ton freight car. I removed one of the wheels from the Grupo car because I was curious about the rotating bearing caps and the cap came off in the process. The plastic bearing caps are push-fit on the needle points of the axles. A bag with two spare, color-matched caps came with the gray Grupo car. The cap that I removed went back on with a bit of effort... mostly in trying to pick up the tiny round object, ferry it over the axle point, and press it back in place without losing it. Coupler height

Above and Below: This well-appointed three-bay hopper includes many separately applied details. The Santa Fe example (below) is from an early release prior to this freight car model moving to Athearn's Genesis series. The Genesis upgrades include trainline hose and coupler cut levers on the ends of the car and scale-head knuckle couplers.



was dead-on in my view, when these two cars were rolled up to a Kadee height gauge. One of the revisions or upgrades for this excellent model in its move to Genesis class a production or two back was the addition of scale-head knuckle couplers. These are the manufacturer's own plastic McHenry couplers. Athearn suggests operation on curves with a minimum 18-inch radius... I evaluated on 18- and 24-inch curves and these cars ran fine and without issue.

The other road names in the run provide 1950s and 1960s era looks for Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Cotton Belt; The Milwaukee Road; and Southern Pacific. This is an excellent example of this popular Pullman-Standard prototype. In addition to offering this PS-2893 in HO scale, you'll find this prototype is available among Athearn's N-scale freight cars. A new production was announced in late 2023; I have details on those coming HO and N PS-2893s from Athearn below. **MRN**



Above: This flip-top box is new packaging for this Athearn Genesis model. The car is wrapped in film and secured in a two-piece plastic inner tray, with exploded parts diagram provided and extra bearing caps for models with roller bearing trucks.

More PS-2893s coming in HO & N



In late November 2023, Athearn announced a new production run for its Pullman-Standard 2893 covered hopper cars in HO and N scales. The coming road names (illustrations shown below) include Jack Frost (NSRX reporting marks), The Milwaukee Road, New York Central, Southern Pacific, Weyerhaeuser (WTCX reporting marks),

and Southern Railway. Most will have multiple road numbers and the fully assembled model carries a \$54.99 suggested retail price for Genesis-series HO models and \$32.99 for Athearn N-scale offerings. The coming black Wabash release (illustration shown above) will be a Primed For Grime release and retails for \$59.99 for the HO replica

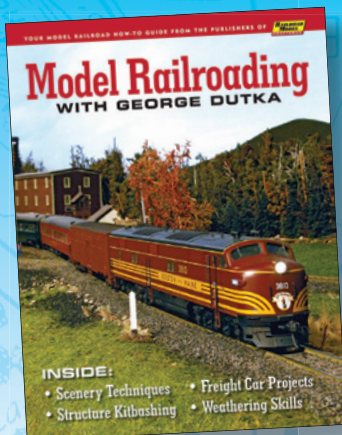
and \$37.99 for the N-scale hopper car; two road numbers are coming for this 1970s-era look. This new collection of Athearn PS-2893 covered hopper cars is expected to ship during April 2025.



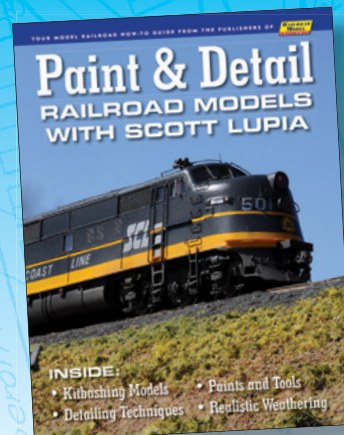
NOW'S THE TIME BUILD UP YOUR Model Railroad Library



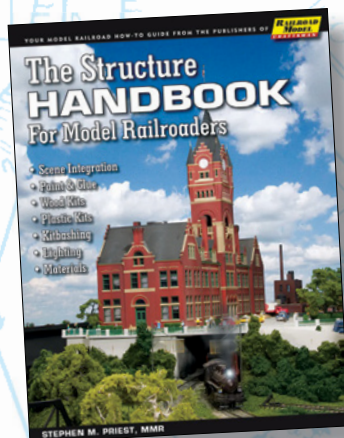
**Scenic & Weathering
Techniques**
(SWTS) \$34.95



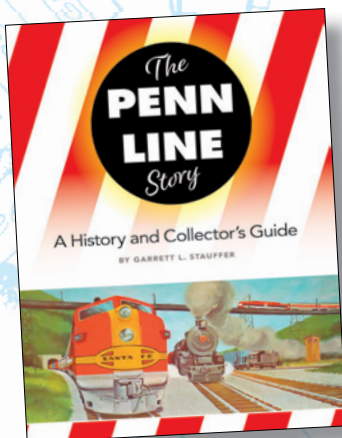
Model Railroad with George Dutka
(MRGD) \$34.95



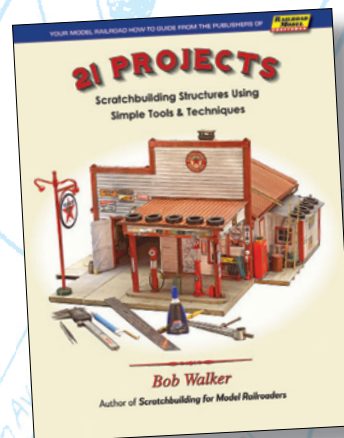
**Paint & Detail Railroad Models
with Scott Lupia**
(PDRM) \$24.95



**The Structure Handbook
for Model Railroaders**
(SHMR) \$24.95



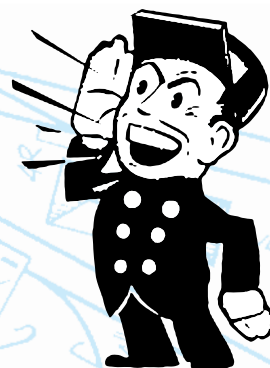
**The Penn Line Story:
A History and Collector's Guide**
(PLSC) \$29.95



**21 Projects:
Scratchbuilding Structures**
(21PR) \$24.95

White River Productions books grow with you!

**See your dealer first or
visit shop.WhiteRiverProductions.com**



**WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS**

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631

 **WhiteRiverProductions**

South of the Border Boxcar

NdeM Postwar Single-Door from Atlas



Review by Tony Cook
Model Photos by Pamela Varney

**Atlas Model Railroad Co. HO-scale
 Master Line
 50-foot Postwar Single-Door Boxcar
 NdeM 93064
 20 005 852, \$38.95**

Atlas Model Railroad Co.
atlasrr.com

In my youth (the 1970s) seeing a Mexican railroad represented in a freight train consist in central Illinois was a rarity, and the very idea of spotting a Mexican locomotive was absurd. Today, Mexican equipment is much more common and seen across North America.

Above: This Master Line release from Atlas provides an assembled 1:87 reproduction of a 50-foot boxcar common in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico during the second half of the 20th century. The offerings include three sill styles and multiple door types and sizes.

Atlas' Master Line includes a great many rolling stock options and this 50-foot postwar single-door boxcar is one model that I've been trying to find space for in *MODEL RAILROAD NEWS* to share with you. The assembled HO-scale boxcar includes two styles (8- and 9-foot sliding door). Road names produced for this release include Canadian National (brown car with white "wet noodle"), Chesapeake & Ohio (black car with yellow decoration), Missouri Pacific (Boxcar Red with white lettering that features "DF" loader label and "Route of the Eagles" slogan), New York Central (green and black car

with white lettering featuring Peoria & Eastern reporting marks and "Quicker via Peoria" slogan), Northern Pacific (red, white, and blue "Savings Bond" special livery), and Reading (green car with yellow lettering). The majority of the road names possess running boards on the roof; the exceptions appear to be Atlas' Canadian National and this Mexican NdeM release. In addition to its modernized appearance with wider sliding door and no roofwalks, I find the white ladders and grab irons very eye-catching... this decoration style is uncommon for U.S. and Canadian railroads, but you'll see this treatment



often on Mexican rolling stock. The paint and lettering are excellent on this sample. I noted a 1974 service date in the data present on the car; you'll also note a stacked COTS label... both attributes add to the 1970s appearance. In addition to the two sizes of sliding door, Atlas' 50-foot postwar boxcar model can come with one of three sill styles. This NdeM boxcar possesses a fishbelly sill; the other styles are straight and tabbed. I believe this tooling originated with Branchline Trains. The model weighs 5.9 ounces, all wheels measured to be in gauge, and the coupler height was in the acceptable range for compatibility. Included for possible install by the owner are color-matched thin-plastic coupler cut levers and trainline hoses for placement on the ends of the car. This is a solid release. The only revision I would make would be to swap out the provided plastic knuckle couplers for scale-head metal couplers. If you decide to make this change, you can place those details on at the same time. **MRN**

Above: The underbody provides good representation of detail with separate piping and equipment mounted to the frame. The body-mounted couplers are easily accessed. The trucks include metal wheels with excellent performance characteristics.

Below: Atlas packages this Master Line release in the company's familiar red and white box. The model, wrapped in film, is encased in a two-piece inner container. This offering comes with user-applied coupler cut levers and trainline hoses.



Uncommon Looks

Santa Fe Boxcar and Norfolk & Western Caboose from Bachmann



Review by Tony Cook
Model Photos by Pamela Varney

**Bachmann Trains HO-scale
Silver Series**

**40-foot Boxcar
Santa Fe – Four Loading
16012, \$39**

**Streamlined Caboose
Norfolk & Western – Bicentennial
14006, \$48**

Bachmann Trains
bachmann.com

Historically, Bachmann's line of HO-scale freight car releases have worn mostly standard paint schemes. I found these uncommon looks fun and welcome additions to the company's Silver Series rolling stock options.

The models are regular body styles

that have served for many years in Bachmann's catalog. The boxcar is a steel 40-foot example with sliding door. The caboose is a streamlined example with offset cupola. Neither plastic model is an exact replica of the prototype with respect to the decoration, but they make for good-looking stand-in roster members that will please many hobbyists, including me.

The Santa Fe boxcar features the road's Mineral Red hue on the body with a silver roof and white door. Checking my copy of *Santa Fe Freight in Color* by Stephen Priest and Thomas Chenoweth (1996, Paired Rail Railroad Publications), I found the road's Bx-136 class included two series of road numbers: 22594–22682 and 39500–39999. Bachmann's model carries road number 39876 and decoration matches well with a photo of a prototype car (ATSF 39834). The white door was a non-

Above: Two interesting and uncommon decorations are available from Bachmann in HO scale. The base models used are common releases in the hobby company's line and come ready to run.

standard element in the road's decoration style, and signified this freight car was assigned to flour loading service, which is also appropriately included in black lettering on the sliding door of the model. Both the book I referenced and Bachmann's model include 1969 rebuild dates. These 40 footers returned to service sans running boards and other modifications and revisions; the model strays well away from these spotting features and portrays this look on an earlier and different style boxcar canvas.

Norfolk & Western (NW) was not immune to the Bicentennial craze of the 1970s, and showed its patriotic pride with several pieces of equipment donning red, white, and blue colors.

A former Wabash caboose featuring a streamlined offset cupola joined an SD45, coal hopper car, and I believe a trailer van that all shared this general scheme. Sadly, the prototype was destroyed by fire in early 1978. Bachmann has taken its Chicago, Burlington & Quincy NE-12 reproduction, which shares similarities with the Wabash waycar, and painted it for Norfolk & Western 1776 in bright Bicentennial colors.

Both releases make for eye-catching additions to one's collection and suggest well the prototypes they depict. You may not take home a prize from a railway prototype modelers meet, if you enter either for scrutinizing eyes; however, outside of brass or custom work these looks are not easily located in HO scale. The paint and lettering on these samples are very good. The separation of colors, especially on the Norfolk & Western caboose, looks good. The addition of yellow paint to highlight various railings and grab irons on the caboose additionally enhances this model. These HO freight car reproductions possess mostly molded-on detail. The brake wheel is separate on both. The boxcar includes separate doors, door tracks, and running boards. The caboose includes separate details on its ends, the smokejack is separately applied, and clear material is present in all windows. The boxcar weighs 4.7



ounces, while the caboose measures 3.8 ounces. Metal slabs reside on top of the inside frame of both models. The HO efforts include smooth-rolling 33-inch metal wheels that checked out to be in gauge. The plastic knuckle couplers all matched well with a coupler height gauge. I did a quick search of several hobby dealers, and found the boxcar was obtainable for around \$26 and the caboose could be bought for a bit more than \$30. **MRN**

Above: Bachmann's Norfolk & Western Bicentennial caboose comes fully assembled and includes metal wheels and the manufacturer's plastic E-Z Mate II knuckle couplers. The plastic model most closely reproduces a Burlington prototype; however, it is visually in the neighborhood of the Wabash-built caboose, which became part of NW's system in 1964.

Below: Santa Fe's Bx-136 class included roster members marked for flour loading service. Bachmann's Silver Series release presents this appearance on a standard 40-foot sliding door boxcar model.



Sixty Feet of Space Awaits

Pullman-Standard flatcar from Walthers Mainline



Review by Tony Cook
Model Photos by Pamela Varney

Walthers Mainline HO-scale

Pullman-Standard 60-foot flatcar

Soo Line 5120
910-5407, \$34.98

Trailer Train OTTX 90075
910-5407, \$34.98

Walthers
walthers.com



This Mainline series release from Walthers provides you with a solid example of a 60-foot flatcar. Placed in a consist as-is, you'll have a good-looking freight car that is a common fixture of North American trains (as shown above right on Union Pacific in 2023). Those looking for an HO-scale flatcar to carry a load or to serve as a canvas (to weather up and add tie-downs and other details to make for an eye-catching empty piece

of rolling stock) will be equally pleased with this release that retails for just less than \$35.

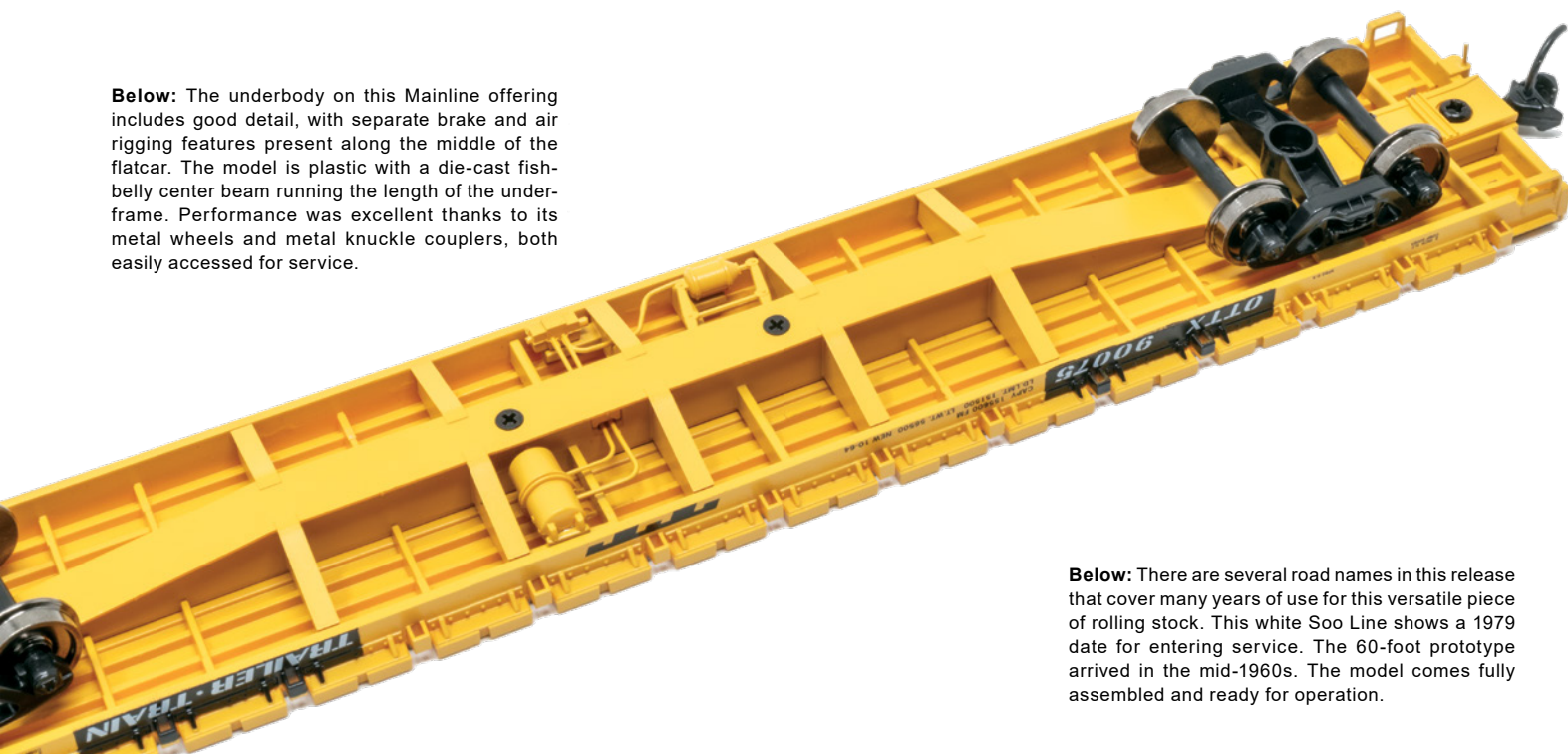
The model is made of an upper section consisting of the deck, sides, and ends of the flatcar, with good detail present on top and on the underside. A metal center section replicates the prototype's fishbelly frame and gives this model some weight, that I measured at 2.8 ounces. The brake wheel is a separate item, but otherwise the

model relies on its fine-quality tooling to present stirrup steps, grab irons, and other features. This is a 70-ton flatcar and comes equipped with appropriate plastic truck sideframes and 33-inch metal wheels. I checked the wheels and all passed inspection to be in gauge. The coupler is Walthers' own Proto MAX metal example secured to the body, and both ends mated up fine with a coupler height gauge.

This model comes wrapped in clear



Below: The underbody on this Mainline offering includes good detail, with separate brake and air rigging features present along the middle of the flatcar. The model is plastic with a die-cast fish-belly center beam running the length of the under-frame. Performance was excellent thanks to its metal wheels and metal knuckle couplers, both easily accessed for service.



Below: There are several road names in this release that cover many years of use for this versatile piece of rolling stock. This white Soo Line shows a 1979 date for entering service. The 60-foot prototype arrived in the mid-1960s. The model comes fully assembled and ready for operation.



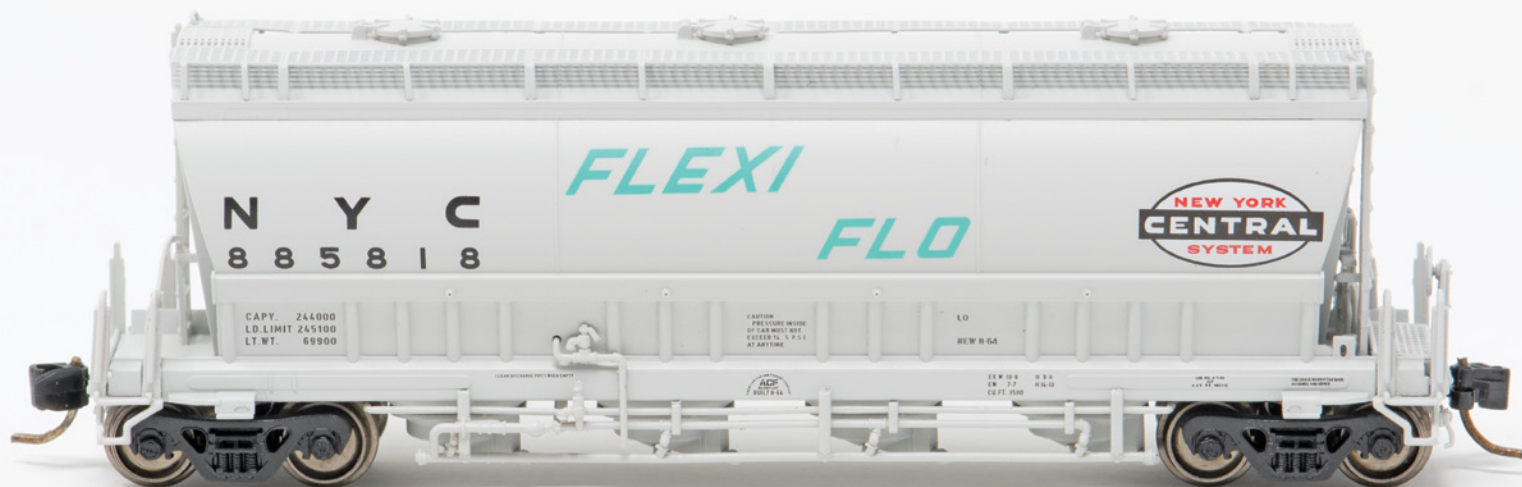
Facing Page: Captured on Union Pacific's Overland Route in western Nebraska, OTTX 97803 is a flatcar similar to this Walther's Mainline release. — Tony Cook photo

film and placed in a two-piece, protective inner tray. You'll find this freight car in the familiar blue Walther's box (shown at right). This 60-foot Pullman-Standard flatcar has been in Walther's line for some time and you'll find a wide range of road names. Among this production are the yellow Trailer Train with a 1964 build date shared in this review, BNSF, Burlington Northern, Erie Lackawanna, Southern Railway, and others. **MRN**



Pressure Advantage

ACF Flexi-Flo Hopper from Rapido Trains



Review by Shane T. Mason

Rapido Trains N-scale
Flexi-Flo Hopper

Conrail (repaint) 897712
533008A, \$44.95

New York Central (as-delivered) 885818
533002A, \$44.95

Penn Central (ex-NYC) 897823
533005A, \$44.95

Rapido Trains
rapidotrains.com

Rapido Trains answers the frequently asked question, “What about N scale?” with the addition of this American, Car & Foundry (ACF) Flexi-Flo hopper model for 1:160 model railroading enthusiasts. The hobby manufacturer first introduced this 3,500-cubic-foot-capacity freight car to its line with an HO release a couple years ago.

This N-scale version comes with early and late body styles for this mostly plastic rendering. This review features two early body Flexi-Flo hoppers and a late body example (Conrail). Today, you’ll commonly find covered hoppers in North American rail service using a

pipng system and pressure to unload dense cargo; this design was innovative and new 60 years ago when ACF built a fleet of 227 examples between 1964 and 1966 for use in hauling cement on New York Central (NYC). As 100-ton rolling stock was becoming the norm in the mid-1960s, these Flexi-Flo hoppers pushed further and were 125-ton freight cars. Rapido includes unique and accurate plastic sideframes on this model replicating Barber’s S-2 look for this heavy-duty service. The model rides on 36-inch metal wheels, though at 125 tons I believe these should be 38-inch wheels; Eastern Seaboard Models (esmc.com) offers this larger wheel (9204, \$15.25 per dozen). The piping running along both sides of this car, and up along the ends, is plastic and separate from the body shell.

Above: This Flexi-Flo design developed by American Car & Foundry was a signature car showing the era’s innovation. New York Central owned nearly every example of this freight car produced.

The roof includes three round plastic hatches and see-through, etched-metal roofwalks running around the perimeter of the top of the car. The ends of this hopper include open porches with standup railings, which are separately applied features on this N-scale model. The B-end includes a brake wheel mounted on a post. You’ll find thin stirrup steps with added grab iron above each on all four corners of the hopper. I especially like the inclusion of coupler cut levers on both ends of the model. Mico-Trains Line style knuckle couplers are body-mounted to the frame and secured by a screw holding the coupler pocket in place.





Above: Rapido Trains brings its excellent Flexi-Flo hopper to its N-scale line with two body styles. This well-detailed model includes see-through etched-metal roofwalks, excellent end details, and an abundance of piping... just like the prototype. This NYC car is an early example with vertical posts on its lower sides.

The paint and lettering were excellent across these three samples. This group shared in the review includes an as-delivered New York Central with green Flexi-Flo labeling and is probably the most striking of this set. The other early body style (spotted by the vertical posts along the lower portion of the hopper sides) is a Penn Central that shows a hasty patch job on an NYC original. I like how Rapido adds a slightly different shade of gray to show the patched sections on this already gray car. Finally, the late production (with two bolted reinforcement panels in place of those vertical posts on the early edition of this ACF freight car) is represented by a darker gray Conrail repaint. This limited-run N-scale ACF PD3500 Flexi-Flo hopper is a welcome addition to N scale. Thanks to Rapido Trains for making HO and N operators and collectors happy with this sharp model, which retails for \$44.95. **MRN**



Above: This Conrail 996H class example is a repainted New York Central freight car. This is the late body style that possesses two thick horizontal bars running along the lower portion of the hopper side. Note all the piping running around this model.

Below: ACF built more than 200 Flexi-Flo hoppers in the mid-1960s for New York Central, along with a group of seven cars going to Shippers Car Line. You'd think decoration might therefore be limited, but these three looks are only a sampling of the road names and paint schemes produced by Rapido Trains for this model.



Peaked-End Premiere

2-Bay Fishbelly Hopper from S-Helper Service – ScaleTrains



Above: This hopper car was developed by S-Helper Service, this peaked-end example is a first-time release in the market and is ScaleTrains' first 1:64 offering. In addition to Lehigh Valley and Western Maryland shown in this review, the run includes Atlantic Coast Line, Chesapeake & Ohio, Norfolk & Western, and Reading, as well as undecorated.

Review by Michael Ostertag
with Tony Cook

S-Helper Service
distributed by ScaleTrains
S-scale
2-Bay Peaked-End Fishbelly Hopper

Lehigh Valley 25257
SHS75126, \$54.99

Western Maryland 10910
SHS75133, \$54.99

ScaleTrains
[scaletrains.com](https://www.scaletrains.com)

ScaleTrains delivers its first S-scale (1:64) freight car and it was absolutely worth the wait. ScaleTrains purchased the S-Helper Services tooling from MTH Trains several years ago. This led many in the S-scale community (myself included) to start wondering what and when we would see the company produce releases in S scale. I consider

ScaleTrains a leader in the HO- and N-scale segments of the hobby, and was very interested to see if they would replicate this quality in 1:64. I didn't even have to open the box, and all my questions and apprehensions were quickly gone. If this hopper car model is how they are coming into the S-scale world, ScaleTrains has certainly made an entrance!

The car I received was a Western Maryland (WM) 10910 decorated car. The first thing that stood out is the packaging. ScaleTrains paid an enormous amount of respect to the original S-Helper Services by not only recreating the look of that packaging, but by retaining S-Helper Service's name. Shane Wilson and the crew at ScaleTrains take a lot of pride in trying to manufacture products with historical accuracy, and this showed even in the packaging, of this car alone. Everything down to S-Helper Service's logo was recreated for this first release

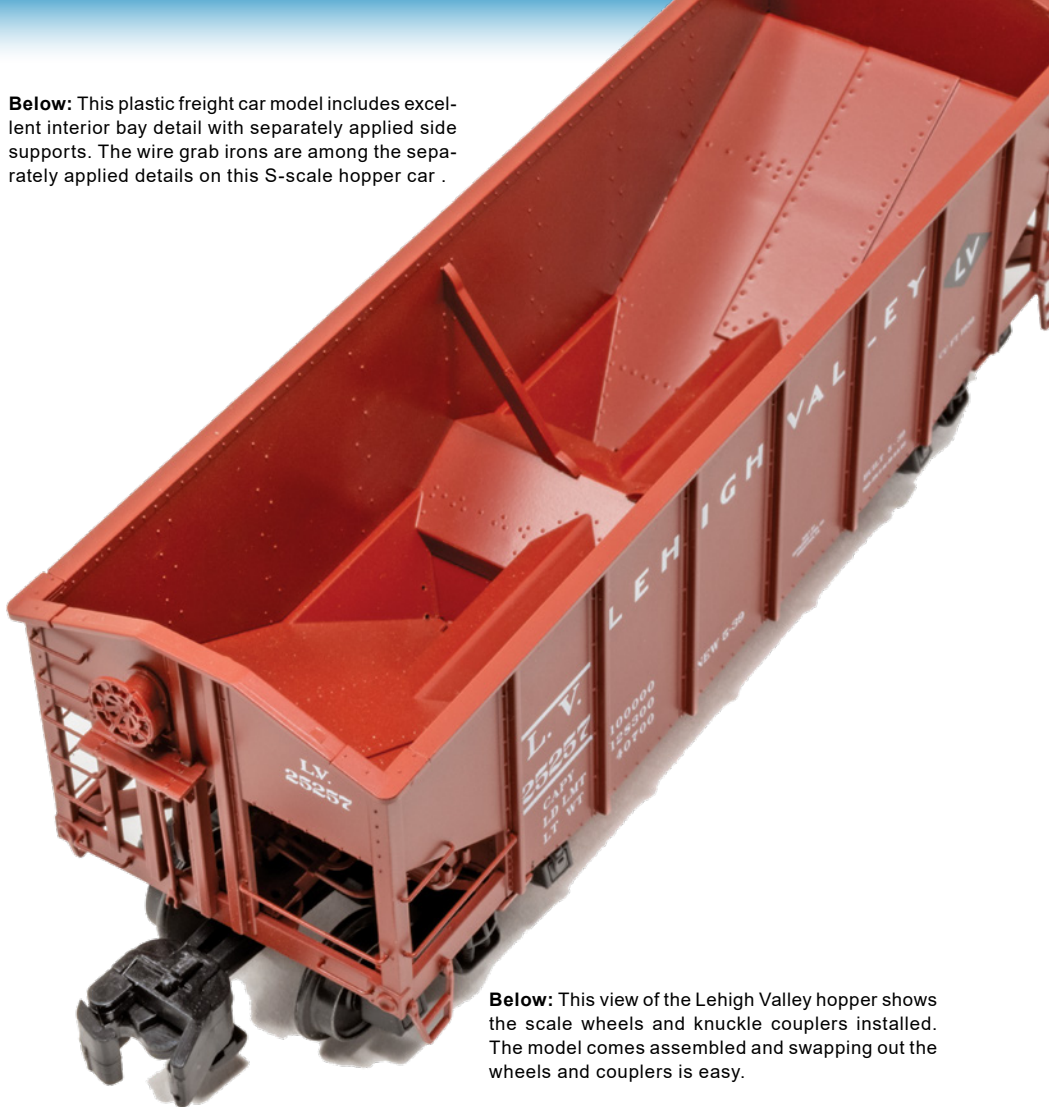
by ScaleTrains.

As is a typical trait of ScaleTrains offerings, the internal packaging lacked no less detail than the outside. The two-bay hopper car reproduction came wrapped in clear film and nestled into a perfectly formed opening in a clear plastic insert. The insert's top cover fit like a glove and the car had absolutely no damage. The car came equipped for American Flyer operations with deep-flange wheels and oversized "Hulk hand" couplers. Included in the box are a set of scale wheels and plastic knuckle couplers and coupler boxes. The hardware to install these is also included, which consists of a set of shims and several sizes of screws. As for the factory-applied couplers, I found that they didn't quite open as far as others of the same style. I can only assume that this may lead to uncoupling issues, but as I don't use these couplers I cannot state this with authority. Readers who pursue

S-gauge operations are welcome to email *MRN* with their experiences. I removed the model's as-delivered couplers and wheels, replacing these items with the scale tread wheels included by ScaleTrains. And, to make this hopper car fit in with my railroad I installed Kadee's (kadee.com) 802 coupler box and Sergeant Engineering knuckle couplers. Sergeant Engineering is no longer in business, though similar couplers are available from Inventive Models (invmodels.com). The car is equipped to do this with holes in the pad area on the underframe where the coupler resides; this made swapping the couplers a breeze. Changing the wheels was a different story; that took a bit of finesse and some trial and error. Eventually, I was able to swap out the wheels by pressing down on the bolster and giving the trucks a twist. This allowed the wheels to release more easily from the metal truck sideframes so I could install the scale wheels.

Speaking of the truck sideframes, they have a metal center bolster and sideframes, as well as two springs on each side of each truck to help give the car stability. The sideframe and center bolster are made from a cast piece of

Below: This plastic freight car model includes excellent interior bay detail with separately applied side supports. The wire grab irons are among the separately applied details on this S-scale hopper car.



Below: This view of the Lehigh Valley hopper shows the scale wheels and knuckle couplers installed. The model comes assembled and swapping out the wheels and couplers is easy.





Above: Here's a look at the detailed underbody of this S-scale hopper car. In this view, you see one of the outlet door sections open (these open on both bays). The truck and coupler on left is the as-delivered American Flyer-compatible format with deep-flange wheels and large couplers attached to the trucks. The wheels and coupler on right are the scale wheels and plastic knuckle coupler (all provided with this release).



Left: Tucked into sections on the wings of the clear plastic insert, you'll find scale wheels, scale knuckles in an assembled pocket, shims for the coupler, a guide piece (color matched to the hopper body's hue) for inclusion between the truck and the underbody, and several screws.

metal that has awesome rivet detailing and adds to the model's 4.25-ounce overall weight. Care should be taken to line the holes up properly and make sure the screws go in straight, through the plastic coupler pocket and into the openings provided on the underside of the hopper. This was no issue on my car at all, but is an important aspect of solid operation, and you'll want to take your time and do this carefully.

The plastic car body is extremely well rendered; it's one of the most highly detailed injection-molded body shells I've seen in S scale. The rib lines are crisp, and rivet detail is superb...no stone seems to be unturned with this car. Both A and B ends have amazing detail. The A-end has the same high-quality rivet detail that the car sides possess, even in locations that may not be easily seen. As for the B-end (handbrake end), the brake details are very good and have piping between the control valve and air reservoir. The handbrake itself is very detailed and

even the handbrake platform has rivet detail and planking that looks correct.

The underside details are equally impressive. The hopper bays are sharp and have no discernible flaws. Everything down to the outlet doors is highly detailed, the rivet detail is well rendered and locks on the door look great. The big thing on the underside is the brake rigging detail, it is subtle and might be easily overlooked because it blends in well with the center sill.

A lot of hoppers have a plain interior...not this car! This hopper bay interior is so highly detailed that it would be a shame to put a load over it and cover it up. There is so much rivet detail that I lost track of it all. One look inside this two-bay hopper car and all I could say was WOW! Rivets are shown along the top edge, both sides, down to and into the hopper gate (door) area, on each slope sheet, as well as on the center slope sheets. The interior even has the interior bracing that these cars typically had.

Now on to the paint and lettering. This Western Maryland hopper car is painted in a light brown color with white lettering. The paint itself is very crisp and there are no runs or noticeable flaws, with one exception. This is not a big deal but should be noted ... the paint on the metal underframe is a bit thicker than on the rest of the car. This is understandable, though, as it is usually the case with cast-metal parts. The lettering is immaculate! The main billboard lettering is very crisp. The rest of the lettering on the car is equally as sharp, right down to the smallest presentation for the trust information.

The selling price point is good at \$54.99 per car. This mid-\$50 price is what you might expect to pay for many of today's HO and N freight car offerings, let alone a larger scale like S. ScaleTrains surpassed every one of my expectations. If this is how they plan on approaching the S-scale market, nothing but good things are on the horizon.

You've now read Mike's take on this hopper car release and I, too, was excited to take a look. I lack the experience with 1:64 that Mike possesses, but I do have a modest collection of locomotives and rolling stock. This was the first S-Helper Service tooling addition to my collection. I evaluate this hopper car as a very good-looking piece of rolling stock. The build quality was excellent, and the Lehigh Valley example I looked over has an even and attractive paint job and sharp lettering.

There is an information sheet included in this release, though it lacks a parts diagram and the provided alternative parts are not addressed. Though they may seem obvious, I had some questions regarding the shims and screws and where everything was meant to go. Mike and I got online together for a video chat (you can find this video on YouTube) and worked through the swapping out of the wheels and install of the couplers. The former S-Helper Service tooling continues to build ScaleTrains' collection with a boxcar (shown at right above) and wide-vision caboose (right). Hopefully, the market will support these releases and we can look forward to more efforts in S scale from ScaleTrains. **MRN**

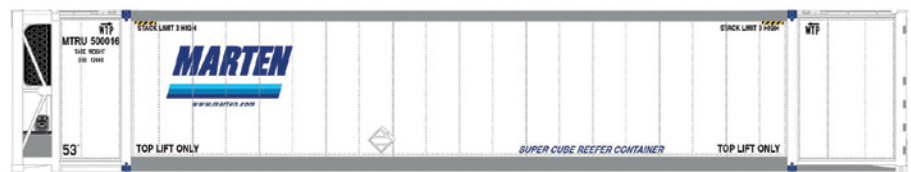
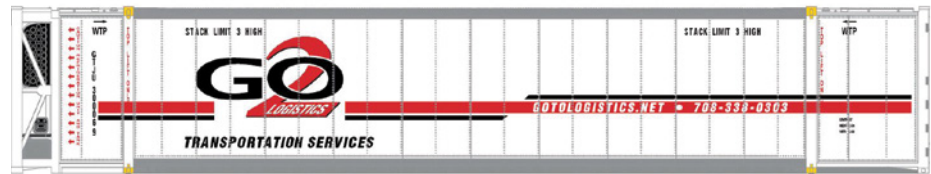


Operator series 53-foot refrigerator containers coming in HO and N from ScaleTrains

HO & N – ScaleTrains plans a mid-year delivery for a new collection of its 53-foot CIMC refrigerator container models. These fully assembled and decorated intermodal loads come in sound-equipped, single container model releases (selling for \$39.99) and in non-sound versions 3-pack sets (selling for \$42.99) in HO. The N-scale containers are non-sound reproductions and sell for \$13.99 singly and \$41.99 buys a 3-pack set.

The road names and paint schemes coming include Alliance Shippers, CR England, KLLM Transportation Services, Go 2 Logistics Transportation Services, Hub Group, J.B. Hunt Transportation Incorporated, Marten Transport, and Tiger Cool Express. This style container was first in use in the early 2000s. ScaleTrains notes its CIMC model is very similar to a Hyundai container, and decorations include a mix of both prototypes. The run is expected in late July.

ScaleTrains, [scaletrains.com](https://www.scaletrains.com)



Morton Salt trucks in HO and N from Mini Metals



HO & N – Classic Metal Works' Mini Metals delivers a 1954 Ford box truck decorated for Morton Salt in HO scale (1:87) and N scale (1:160). The assembled model sells for \$23.99 in HO and you receive a pair of trucks in the \$27.99 N-scale release. In addition to this blue Morton Salt offering, Mini Metals has a green with yellow Mayflower release for this same mid-1950s Ford box truck.

Classic Metal Works, distributed by Round 2 Corp.,
[round2corp.com](https://www.round2corp.com)

Sylvan Scale Models offers Mack fire truck kits in HO scale



HO – Sylvan Scale Models offers kits for building two versions of a 1950–1956 Mack L Model pumper truck. The open cab (shown top right) is Sylvan's V-390 kit, while the closed cab (shown bottom right) is kit V-391. Both releases retail for \$36.95 each. Visit Sylvan Scale Models to view the company's full line. These kits are available now from your local hobby dealer.

Sylvan Scale Models, sylvanscalemodels.com



Touch Toggles *Fast*
The easy way to your dream panel!



**BERRETT
HILL
TRAINS**
Made in
the USA

www.berretthillshop.com

ALL-NEW WEBPAGE DESIGN!

JAMCREATIONS.NET
HOME OF THE HO / N SCALE
STEALTH TRACK CLEANER

Many Unique Model Railroad Products
Real Scrap Metal Products
Near Zero Gravity Coal / Ore Loads
Custom Machining

TWO FREE OFFERS! No Purchase Necessary

**Model
Railroad
News**
The All-Scale News Monthly

LIGHT WORKS USA™
By Miller Engineering

New Animated Billboards!!!



5900 Series - Vertical Theater Sign.
This **double-sided** vertical theater sign was designed to complement our horizontal theater sign, #1181. This sign comes with several popular theater names. These peel and stick overlays will let you customize your sign. You can also make your own overlay for that favorite name you might have.
Limited production sign.
#5981 - Large Vertical Theater Sign
Price: \$55.95
Size: 1.2" W x 5.6" T
Suitable for O scales.
Plus \$7.50 S&H

Miller Engineering
PO Box 282, New Canaan, CT 06840
Tel. 203-595-0619; Fax 203-322-6116
Join our monthly email newsletter
for all the latest news at:
www.microstru.com

#5982 - Small Vertical Theater Sign
Price: \$36.95
Size: .625" W x 3" T
Suitable for N & HO scales.
Plus \$7.50 S&H

See your dealer first! If not in stock, order direct.

Copyright 2010 by Miller Engineering

HO/N/O signs, billboards,
laser-cut structures,
and much, much more...

Blair Line, LLC
PO Box 1136, Carthage, MO 64836
www.blairline.com



East Coast Circuits
Innovating Your Model Railroad Layout
P. O. Box 25412 • Providence, RI 02905

Lighted Circuits For Your Layout

- Random Lighting Circuit
- Burning Fire Circuit and more!
- Traffic Light Circuit
- Custom Lighted Vehicles

Eastcoastcircuits.com Eastcoastcircuits@gmail.com

Enjoy the Miniature Outdoors

1977 Chevy Truck Camper from Mini Metals



Review by Tony Cook

**Classic Metal Works
Mini Metals HO-scale**

**1977 Chevy Truck Camper
Green/Dark Green
30672, \$23.99**

**1977 Chevy Truck Camper
Neutral/Tan
30673, \$23.99**

**1977 Chevy Truck Camper
Blue/Light Blue
30674, \$23.99**

**Classic Metal Works Mini Metals,
distributed by Round 2
classicmetalworks.com**

A new collection of Chevy truck models is available from Classic Metal Works for its Mini Metals series. This appears to be the same plastic pickup tooling that arrived

in 2021; that release was marketed as a 1973 prototype, while this run includes labeling that it is a 1977. I don't find any difference in the truck's appearance, though Chevrolet's C/K series ran with a similar look from its 1973 introduction throughout the 1970s. This third generation for Chevy's pickup is known as a "rounded line" truck, thanks to its smoothed-over body design. It remained in the car maker's catalog for many years with this appearance. What is new for this group of three Mini Metals offerings is a camper placed in the truck bed. The truck is a well-proportioned reproduction that comes assembled and includes rolling wheels, cab interior, clear window material, and mirrors that the user places on the doors of the vehicle. I used Testors Clear Parts Cement to secure the mirrors to the sample models. The opening

is provided in the body for installing the chrome-plated mirror details. I found most fit fine, though I cleaned some openings with a hobby knife to allow the mirror to fit into the area. The camper can be removed; nothing holds it to the truck bed. Detail on the camper and the attention to reflectors, rear door, windows, and other features is good and paint application enhances the appearance of this add-on. The paint on the trucks was very good with the three colors offering hobbyists a nice selection of looks. This series of Mini Metals 1977 Chevy truck camper models is available now. The release carries a retail of a bit below \$25, which is a competitive asking price for today's market. Whether you place this truck with camper among other vehicles in an urban setting or out in the wilds of your pike, it's an eye-catching release. **MRN**

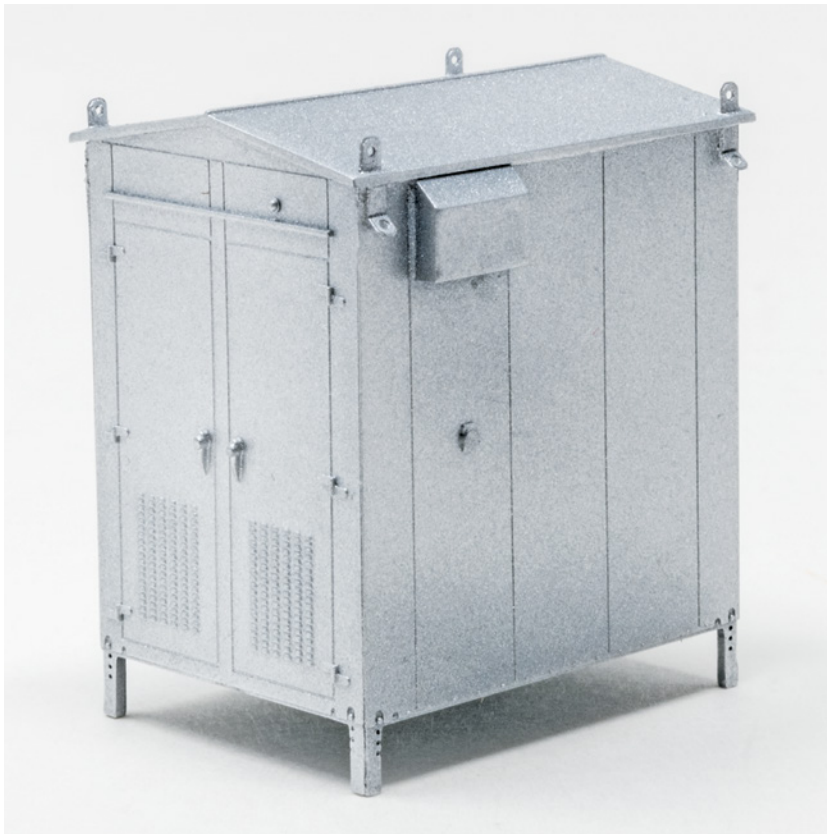


Above and Facing Page: Classic Metal Works' Mini Metals line has a new production for its 1970s Chevrolet truck model. This 1:87 vehicle returns with three color schemes and a new camper. All three offerings share the same white camper, while each release provides a truck with a unique two-tone color scheme.

Right and Below: The detail on the camper addition for Mini Metals' HO-scale Chevy truck will make for an interesting vehicle on your railroad. The truck comes virtually assembled with the mirrors provided in a bag. The camper is removable. This HO model comes carded, with the vehicle protected in a two-piece clear blister pack.



Jackson-Standard Models introduces modern relay shed kit for HO scale



Above: This metal relay shed is a common item to see trackside in contemporary North American railroading. This box is on Norfolk Southern rails in central Illinois. You can add this detail to your railroad with this new HO kit. The model comes molded in gray (shown below left). — *photo courtesy Jackson-Standard Models*

HO — Jackson-Standard Models' modern relay shed reproduces a 6 x 8-foot prototype built by Safetrans System Corporation. These aluminum sheds are used by railroads at highway grade crossings, trackside at signals, and at railroad diamonds. The easy-to-assemble plastic (with metal lift rings) kit sells for \$12 direct from the manufacturer.

Jackson-Standard Models, jacksonstandard.com



AZATRAX

Circuits and Signals

When you move up to

DEAD

rail,

your Azatrax signal system will still be

ALIVE!

Infrared train detection works with battery-on-board systems.

azatrax.com

Classic and Colorful Chesapeake & Ohio

This all-color pictorial covers the western end of the magnificent Chesapeake & Ohio, including Pere Marquette District, Chicago Division, and Cincinnati & Russell Divisions!

See your dealer first or visit WRPbookstore.com

\$59.95
PLUS S&H*
ORDER ITEM COV1



*SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES: \$10 U.S., \$30 INTERNATIONAL, SEE WEBSITE FOR SHIPPING OPTIONS

**WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS**

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631

Toy & Hobby Junction is Built & Ready from Woodland Scenics

HO, N & O – Woodland Scenics offers its Built & Ready series Toy & Hobby Junction business in several popular scales. The two-story, brick building is home to a hobby shop with interior decoration, exterior sign, and LED lighting designed for easy connection to the manufacturer's Just Plug system. The building comes assembled and hand painted with weathering applied for an authentic look. This structure is ready to place on your model railroad. The HO-scale Toy & Hobby Junction retails for \$79.99, the N-scale release lists for \$69.99, and the O-scale version has a \$171.99 suggested retail price. Woodland Scenics releases are sold direct from the company's website and available at most hobby shops.

Woodland Scenics, woodlandscenics.com



AAA Plus Trains & Darts

www.northcoasthobby.com

Great Decals! O.S. HO-N SCALES

Southern Railway - 5 titles
RF&P - 6 titles
Virginian Railway - 28 titles
L&N - 16 titles
Akron, Canton, & Youngstown - 24 titles
Coupler gauges and more!

for list, SASE to: William Mosteller
3306 Parkside Terrace - Fairfax, VA 22031

www.greatdecals.com

CALL TO ACTION

Thousands of railcars including both new and historic fallen flags have been vandalized with graffiti over the past decade. Help stop this crime. Report any suspicious trespassing to the railroad or local police.

NS (800)453-2530
CSX (800)232-0144
UP (888)877-7267
BNSF (800)832-5452
CN (800)465-9239
CP (800)716-9132
KCS (877)527-9464

NJ INTERNATIONAL

ELECTRONICS ANIMATING YOUR LAYOUT SIMPLY & ECONOMICALLY

www.njinternationalFL.com

PO Box 15341 • Clearwater FL 33766

Yard Master II

Operate Conventionally

- Direct response - or with momentum
- 2.5 Amps DC power
- LED indicators
- Center off direction control switch
- Electronic overload protection
- measures: 4.4" x 2.4" w x 1.2" d
- 2 versions: item #2353, #2354 & #2355
- Made in U.S.A.

Back-N-Forth

(Point to Point / End to End)

for conventional operators.

See our web site or call for more details.

DALLEE ELECTRONICS, Inc.
dallee.com

246 W. Main St.,
Dept. MRRN
Leola, PA 17540
(717) 661-7041

TRAINSHOW.COM

The best place to find Great Train Shows in America

Greenberg's Train & Toy Show
America's Train & Toy Show since 1976

Great American Train Shows
Quality Train Shows from coast to coast

Great Midwest Train Show
The best place to buy & sell trains since 1971

World's Greatest Hobby on Tour Show

Feb 10-11 Indianapolis, IN - State Fairgrounds
Mar 23-24 Cleveland, OH - IX Center
Showcasing Model Railroad's finest: Manufacturers, Retailers, Operating Railroads
Free Riding Train, Demonstrations & More

SCHEDULE

Feb 10-11 Salt Lake City, UT - CANCELLED!

Feb 10-11 Indianapolis, IN - Indiana State Fair
Feb 17-18 Ventura, CA - Fairgrounds & Event Ctr
Feb 24-25 San Jose, CA - Santa Clara Fairgrounds
Mar 2-3 Victorville, CA - San Bernardino Fair
Mar 3 Wheaton, IL - DuPage County Fairgrounds
Mar 9-10 Edison, NJ - New Jersey Expo Center
Mar 9-10 Des Moines, IA - Iowa Events Center
Mar 16-17 East Moline, IL - The Bend Event Center
Mar 23-24 Wilmington, MA - Shriner's Auditorium
Mar 23-24 Cleveland, OH - IX Center
Apr 7 Wheaton, IL - DuPage County Fairgrounds
May 5 Wheaton, IL - DuPage County Fairgrounds

For schedule, information & tickets visit:
Trainshow.com
P.O. Box 1192 - Lombard, IL 60148

CMR KITS

Building Under Construction



Santa Fe Depot



Laser-cut Building Kits

Visit our website to see these and more kits from CMR

www.cmrtrain.com

Coca-Cola accessories from Mini Metals



HO — Classic Metal Works offers two styles of Coca-Cola vending machines. The HO-scale decorated plastic details come four to a pack and retail for \$11.99. The taller red machine model with “10 cents” and “ice cold” labeling is the 1950s version (20254), while the slightly shorter machine with white background

Coca-Cola label and slogan “Things Go Better with Coke” on its side is the 1960s release (20255). These two Coca-Cola machines and other accessories are available now from Round 2’s Classic Metal Works line.

Classic Metal Works, distributed by Round 2 Corp.,
round2corp.com

1950s Pennsylvania RR Piggyback Trailers

Four different variations
Including 30' Single and 32' tandem axle trailers



30th
YEARS OF CREATING FUN

HO Scale

Kit # T-027-1 shown

32229 Sylvan Rd, RR2, Parkhill, ON N0M 2K0 Canada . www.sylvanscalemodels.com info@sylvanscalemodels.com

Model Railroad News

The All-Scale News Monthly

ModelRailroadNews.com

Member benefits include:

- Five regular magazine issues plus timetable
- Auctions
- Special Sales
- Web Resources
- Annual Convention
- Membership Car
- Limited Edition
- Free Classified Ads



The N Scale Enthusiast
P.O. Box 30489
Savannah, GA 31410
www.NScaleEnthusiast.com



Walthers Cornerstone adds new HO-scale freight station kit



Above and Below: These views show the all-new Walthers Cornerstone mid-century modern freight station assembled, painted, and weathered. The plastic kit comes molded in several colors and measures more than 27 inches from the building edge out to the end of the platform shown above.



HO — New from Walthers' Cornerstone series is this impressive mid-century modern freight station kit (933-4065, MSRP: \$59.98). This structure is based on a Carolina & Northwestern Railway facility located in Lenoir, N.C. The design is typical of many North American railroad structures. This kit includes molded-plastic components provided in gray, dark gray, brick red, and tan, as well as clear window material. The model will occupy a 27 3/4 by 8 1/2-inch footprint on your HO model railroad.

Walthers, walthers.com



Whistle Stop Trains Your Complete Model Railroad Store

❖
All Scales — Z through G
New and Used

We Buy and Consign Collections



Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Closed Sunday
11724 SE Division Street • Portland, OR 97266
Phone: 503-761-1822
Web Site: wsor.com

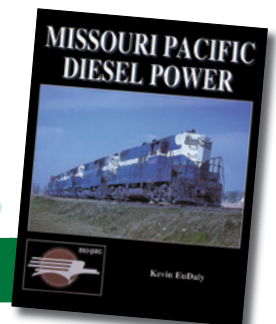
Missouri Pacific Diesel Power

From pre-war to modern day, this book presents every class of diesel owned by Missouri Pacific, Texas & Pacific, Chicago & Eastern Illinois, and other subsidiaries, all in full-color!

See your dealer first or
visit WRPbookstore.com

\$59.95
PLUS S&H*
ORDER ITEM MPDP

*SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES: \$10 U.S., \$30 INTERNATIONAL, SEE WEBSITE FOR SHIPPING OPTIONS



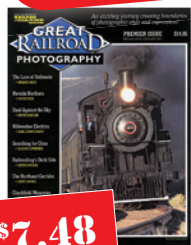
**WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS**

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631

Get them while they last!

CLOSEOUT SALE

Extremely limited quantities!



\$7.48

Item No.

CRS-GRPI

GREAT RAILROAD PHOTOGRAPHY

✓ Top photographers contribute exciting essays that cross the boundaries of photographic style and expression.

Item No.

RPN-BRLI

THE BROADWAY LIMITED

✓ A pictorial history of Pennsylvania Railroad's most famous passenger train, through the Penn Central and Amtrak eras.

Item No.

CRS-PCV1

PASSENGER CARS: 1

✓ Volume 1 features photos and plans of wood and heavyweight cars from the earliest days through the postwar era.

Item No.

CRS-PCV2

PASSENGER CARS: 2

✓ Volume 2 features photos and plans of streamlined coaches, combines, baggage and mail, lounges, cafes, and dining cars.

Item No.

CRS-PCV3

PASSENGER CARS: 3

✓ Volume 3 features photos and plans of solariums, sleepers, and inspection cars. Includes Pullman, Budd, and ACF.

Item No.

TDTB

3 DAYS, 20 BUCKS

✓ A nostalgic look at the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club's narrow gauge excursions through the lens of photographer Stan Rhine.

Item No.

FDJR

NOTHING COULD BE FINER THAN A FRISCO DINER

✓ Dining cars on the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway had a reputation for serving the finest food on rails.

Item No.

RRPS

RAILROAD PIT STOPS

✓ Enjoy amazing black and white photography by Robert P. Olmsted of engine terminals and roundhouses from Ohio to Nebraska.

Item No.

CRS-RFL

RAILFAN FOR LIFE

✓ A selection of colorful railfan photography from coast to coast from the collection of former publisher Harold Carstens.

Item No.

CRS-CMBR

THE CIRCUS MOVES BY RAIL

✓ The definitive book on circus trains from the earliest days to the modern fleet of Ringling Brothers, Barnum & Bailey.

Item No.

RPN-AAAM

ALL ABOARD AMTRAK: 1971-1991

✓ A detailed look at Amtrak's first 20 years, authored by Mike Schafer with foreword by then-Amtrak CEO W. Graham Claytor Jr.

Item No.

ROTR

ROUTE OF THE ROCKETS

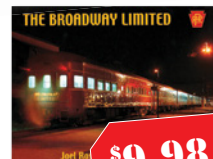
✓ A history of Rock Island "Rocket" streamliner passenger trains from the earliest days of 1937 through the end in 1979.

Item No.

SPR1

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILS: A MOTIVE POWER FINALE

✓ A super-detailed roster of SP and Cotton Belt diesel locomotives from 1986 through the Union Pacific merger in 1996.



\$9.98



\$12.48



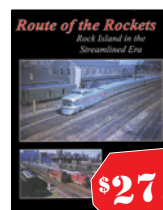
\$29.98



\$17.48



\$19.98



\$27.47



\$19.97



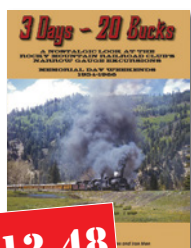
\$16.48



\$16.48



\$16.48



\$12.48



\$19.97

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES: \$10 U.S., \$30 INTERNATIONAL, SEE WEBSITE FOR SHIPPING OPTIONS

Visit shop.WhiteRiverProductions.com

WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631 • INFO@WHITERIVERPRODUCTIONS.COM

WhiteRiverProductions

Huffman's Wrestling is a new kit in HO scale from Fos Scale Models

HO — Fos Scale Models' impressive and elaborate four-story Huffman's Wrestling kit is a recent addition to the company's line. This release features a mostly clapboard structure with some add-ons, including a large exterior stairway (shown at the right below). Fos Scale Models provides newly created 3D-printed details for this offering, along with metal details and injection-molded plastic windows and doors. Eye-catching elements of the building include a one-piece marquee, building cornice detail with pigeons for placement on the rooftop, clusters of junk, a printed lamp post, laser-cut rooftop signage, large color wall mural, and more. The kit will reside in a 6 x 8-inch footprint on your model railroad. These views show a completed kit with scenery and figures (not included with this kit). The new Huffman's Wrestling from Fos Scale Models sells for \$144.50 and is available now. Visit the company online to view additional pictures of this release and see the complete line. Be sure to check out Fos Scale Models' Kit of the Month Club program.

Fos Scale Models, fosscalemodels.com



Expand Your City

Merchant's Row VII from Walthers Cornerstone



Above: Walthers adds to its Merchant's Row series with this seventh release recently added to the manufacturer's Cornerstone line of HO-scale structures.

Review by Tony Cook

Walthers Cornerstone HO-scale
Merchant's Row VII
933-4044, \$44.98

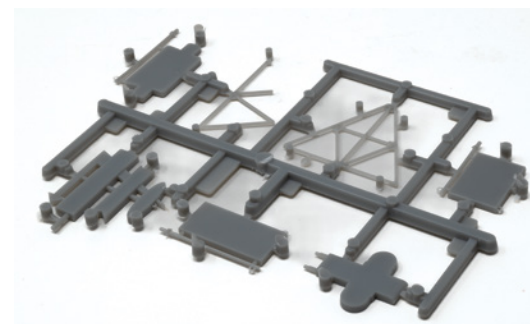
Walthers
walthers.com

Walthers adds a seventh release to its Merchant's Row series. Like other Cornerstone line offerings in this collection, this easy-to-assemble HO-scale plastic kit helps you create an authentic-looking downtown scene. The Merchant's Row VII kit consists of injection-molded plastic sections provided in four colors and a clear section for use as

window material. For simulating interior detail, Walthers includes a color cardstock sheet (shown at the far right on the facing page). On this sheet are appropriately sized sections that can be cut, folded, and placed inside the building and attached to the clear plastic windows. You'll notice a section with open/closed and store hours decorations that can be inserted



Above: A decal sheet comes with this kit for use with the provided gray molded-plastic signs (shown below). The assembled kit in this review followed the look of Walther's example. The three businesses shown above have appropriately sized signs for application of these colorful decals. There is much that the builder can create with this easy-to-build HO-scale kit release.



Above: Included with the plastic components, Walther's provides this color sheet for use in adding decoration to the many windows in this Merchant's Row VII kit. The kit comes with clear plastic sections for the windows and these images printed on cardstock can be placed on the window pieces inside the building. The wide display windows on the first floor can be decorated with the inserts that can be folded to fit across the angled clear plastic inserts.



between the large interior illustration and the window. I found the interior inserts fit pretty well. I scored them to aid in folding across window areas that were not flat. There are several styles of door and upper-floor window decorations. You can survey your businesses and make some judgments on what types of decoration to place in what windows. Included are several plastic sign options for the building faces. A sheet of color water-slide decals comes with Merchant's Row VII for decorating the exterior signs. I built this example with the same signs Walther's shows in its illustrations, though, alternate sign styles and business names are available.

For the reader's benefit, I constructed this HO-scale kit without applying any paint or weathering. My goal is to show you what you receive and how it would appear in its most basic form. What you see in the provided pictures is this building and sidewalk base as it comes from the box in color-molded

sections. As you see, you could assemble Merchant's Row VII as I have, and with some weathering and minor paint accents in various locations you would have a presentable addition to an HO business district. Naturally, spray painting each of the three businesses a different hue (as shown on the box) makes for a more realistic finished product.

I encountered little flash on the many plastic parts and only used a sanding file here and there on meeting points between the walls. Though it looks intricate at a glance, you essentially build the outer walls of what appears to be three distinct brick buildings. The corner business includes a separate awning and the pair of two-story businesses have entryway inserts... all these pieces fit well as you see from my quick assembly of the kit for this review. The rear stairway and second-story walkway may be the most involved part of this build, as you must carefully line up the railings and multiple pieces

involved, but even this is pretty simple and not challenging.

Across this Merchant's Row kit series, and many other Cornerstone offerings from Walther's, you'll find similarities in design or reused elements. This is also an element of the 1:1 architectural landscape. As you construct this kit, you'll discover you have many more pieces than you need. I built this kit following the provided instructions and when completed, I found I had two large wall side sections, a thin vertical wall piece, two spare entry inserts, and several unused sign options. With a bit of creativity, the buyer may well find another building is more-or-less present on the sprues.

This is another fun addition to this collection. Be sure to check out this issue's "From The Archive" for a look at this series of Walther's kits and their heritage, and how different these buildings were when in the Magnuson Models line. **MRN**



Facing Page and Above: This view of the back of Merchant's Row VII (facing page) shows the second-floor walkway with stair access. The kit also includes separate downspouts. With paint and some weathering this building makes for a realistic addition to a town scene. The building resides on a plastic base that replicates a sidewalk. The roof sections are separate pieces and include chimney detail that you assemble and install in a designated location.

Below: Among the pieces provided are several alternative signs with decals to decorate them (signage decals and cardstock window decoration sheet is shown below with the illustrated instruction guide). Merchant's Row VII comes in the familiar blue Walthers packaging (right). This kit is available now and carries a \$44.98 suggested retail price. The footprint required to place this on your railroad measures 10 1/2 by 6 7/8 inches. The sidewalk base can be enhanced with traffic light and streetlights (as shown on the package illustration).



Ron's Books
www.ronsbooks.com
P.O. BOX 714, HARRISON, NY 10528 • ronsbooks@aol.com
(914)967-7541 11AM to 10PM EST FAX (914)967-7492 24HR

NEVER a Shipping Charge within the U.S.*

A Railroad Life Vol 3 On the Road With Mike Bednar	65.75
Back Shop Illustrated Erecting, Repair & Terminal RR Shops Vol 2 Midwest	65.75
Ballast Cars, Cabooses & Test Cars Mfrs' Catalog Archive Book 71	35.00
Baltimore & Potomac Railroad A Pictorial History	19.50
Bellefontaine, Ohio The Rise and Fall of a Big Four Terminal	42.75
Bethlehem Steel: Rusting Relic	23.75
Big Red Cars The "Blimp" Electric Interurban Cars of the SP	65.75
Black Diamonds From the Treasure State - MT, WY & Southern	36.75
Canadian Passenger Trains 1967-1983 in Color	65.75
Central RR of NJ 1970-1976 Across Garden State Vol 1 Communipaw-Cranford	45.75
Chesapeake & Ohio Mountain Subdivision	23.75
Colorado Rail Annual 35: Rails Around the Table Mountains - Golden, CO	85.50
D&H's Penn Division 1930-1959	62.75
Deadliest Train Wrecks of New England	23.75
Delaware & Hudson Steam Locomotives 1828-1953	85.50
Fairbanks-Morse Locomotives Vol 2 Mfrs' Catalog Archive Book 72	35.00
First of its Kind The Buffalo Creek Railroad Vol 2 1950 & Beyond	45.75
From Glory to Ashes Demise of Milwaukee Road's Pacific Coast Extension Vol 1	60.75
From Glory to Ashes Demise of Milwaukee Road's Pacific Coast Extension Vol 2	60.75
How Diesel and Electric Locomotives Work	26.75
Jersey Central's Baldwin Roadswitchers	36.75
Lost Coal District of Gebo, Crosby & Kirby (Wyoming)	23.75
Maine's Two-Footer Railroads: The Linwood Moody Collection	23.75
Milwaukee Road Mainline: Chicago to Twin Cities (1965-1985)	34.75
Nebraska Central Railroad Pride of the Prairies	27.75
New York Central Chatham Crossing	50.00
Northampton & Bath Railroad and Beyond	45.75
Northeast Corridor: The Trains, the People, the History, the Region	27.75
Passenger Trains of Texas The Katy	80.75
Pennsylvania Railroad Vol 2 The Age of Limits 1917-1933	75.50
Plymouth Locomotives Vol 3 Gasoline Locomotives Mfrs' Catalog Archive Book 69	35.00
Pressed Steel Car Co Vol 2 Tank Cars & Flat Cars Mfrs' Catalog Archive Book 70	35.00
Railroads of the Upper South 1958-1974 Jack de Rosset Rail Photography	37.75
Railway Prototype Encyclopedia Vol 36	90.00
Rio Grande Scenic Line of the World 2nd Edition	85.50
Rio Grande Steam Finale: Narrow Gauge RR Photos in Colorado & New Mexico	55.75
Soo Line's Famous Trains to Canada	19.50
Southern Pacific 1960s-1990s Vol 1 Sacramento to Sparks Revised	65.75
Thirteen Scoops Around the Box Memoirs of an Appalachian Railroad Man	60.75
Through the Berkshires to Boston- The Boston & Albany Railroad	88.75
Tracks of the New York Subway 2024	60.75
Transit in the Triangle Part 2 The Port Authority Years 1964-2014 (Pittsburgh)	60.75
Trolleys, Trams & Light Rail Around the World	30.75
Vision Accomplished - The History of the Kansas City Southern	36.75
Wabash's City of Kansas City Pullmans from Delmar to Everywhere	49.75
Where the NYC Railroad's Past is Present: The Adirondack Railroad	75.50

*\$30.00 minimum order for free shipping. Under \$30 add \$5. Send \$3 for latest list. All orders U.S. funds only. NY & CT res. add sales tax. Print name, address and phone. Credit card users add card number, CVC code & expiration date. Allow 4 weeks delivery. All foreign orders sent airmail and billed accordingly. Checks payable to Ron's Books. Inquiries must include SASE. Prices subject to change. WE BUY COLLECTIONS.

Moving?

Be sure to send us your new mailing address so you won't miss a single issue!



Please send your name, old address, and complete new mailing address to:

White River Productions
P.O. Box 48
Bucklin, MO 64631

or email:
subs@whiteriverproductions.com

Modular Lumber HO-Scale Kits

Make 1000s of unique loads for your flat cars, gondos, & F-50-Series flats!

775-266-1236 sales@owlmtmodels.com
Orders on web: owlmtmodels.com





Made in U.S.A.

HO SCALE

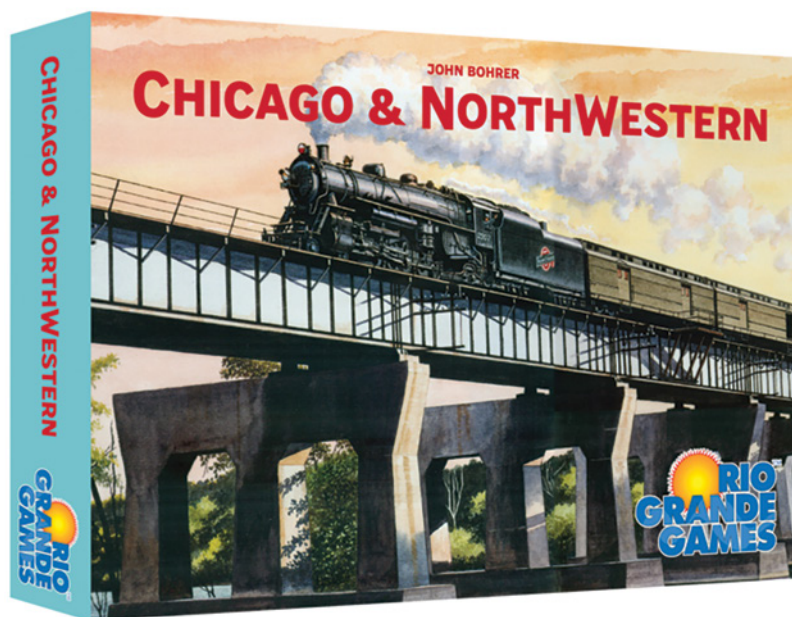
5' Wheelbase Arch Bar Trucks

Tahoe Model Works

775-600-9992 • P.O. Box 3935 • Carson City, NV 89702
www.resincarcworks.com/tahoe.htm



Play the Chicago & North Western game from Rio Grande Games

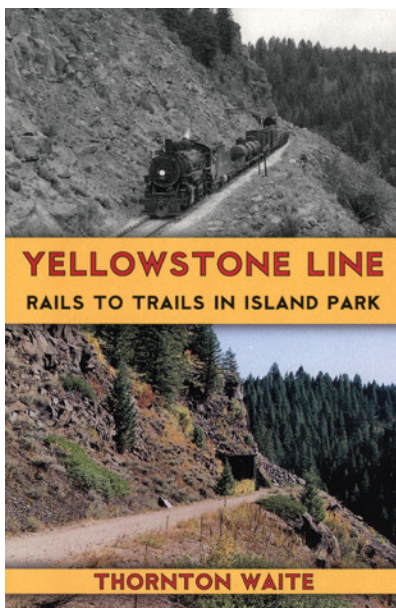


GAME — Rio Grande Games introduces a new railroad-themed board game: Chicago & North Western (RIO663). Designed by John Bohrer, this game puts three to five players in competition building railroads from Chicago westward. You sell stock to raise funds to expand your railroad, but you must balance your business decisions between future

growth and immediate income. The game play is estimated to run 30 minutes to one hour. The railroad/player with the most cash at the end of the game is the winner. This game (retailing for \$39.95) includes colorful map game board, tokens, and play money.

Rio Grande Games; riograndegames.com

Yellowstone Line book documents branch's history



BOOK — South Platte Press presents *Yellowstone Line: Rails to Trails in Island Park* authored by Thornton Waite. This \$24.95 softbound book includes 160 pages detailing the construction, service provided, and abandonment of Union Pacific's rails to Yellowstone National Park. The book includes 138 black & white illustrations.

South Platte Press, southplattepress.com

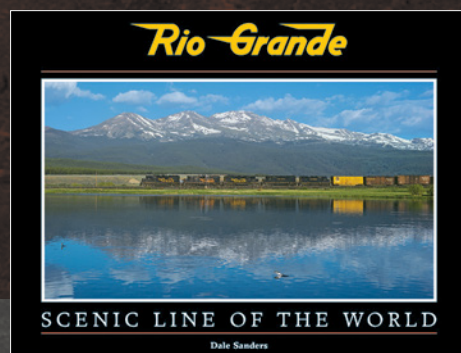
Rio Grande

SCENIC LINE OF THE WORLD

UPDATED SECOND EDITION!



See what made the Rio Grande the scenic wonder of its time. The evergreen mountains of La Veta Pass, the bare rock of the Royal Gorge, the golden aspen on Tennessee Pass, the multi-colored sandstone of Ruby and Bootlegger Canyons, the moonscape of the Utah desert, the majestic Wasatch Range, and the sheer ruggedness of the entire Moffat Road — are all here in one amazing volume.



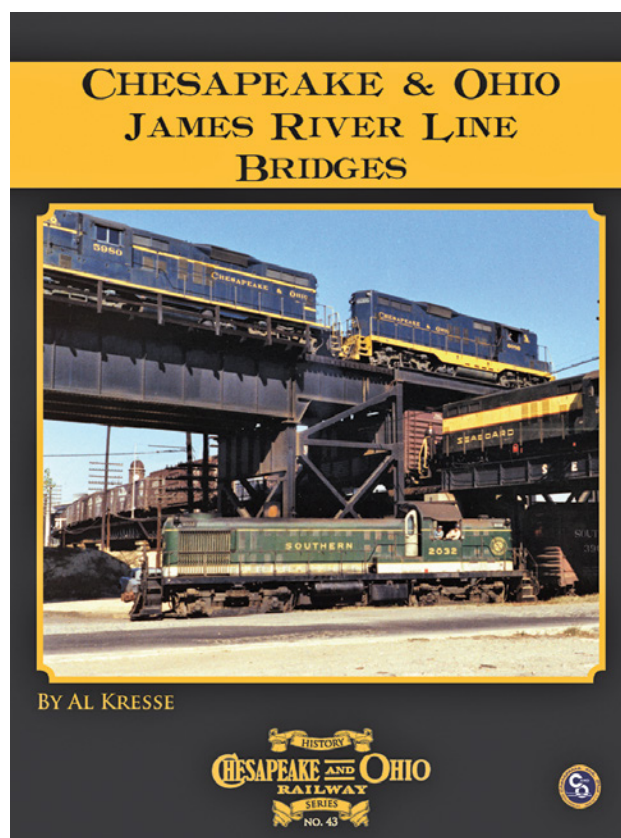
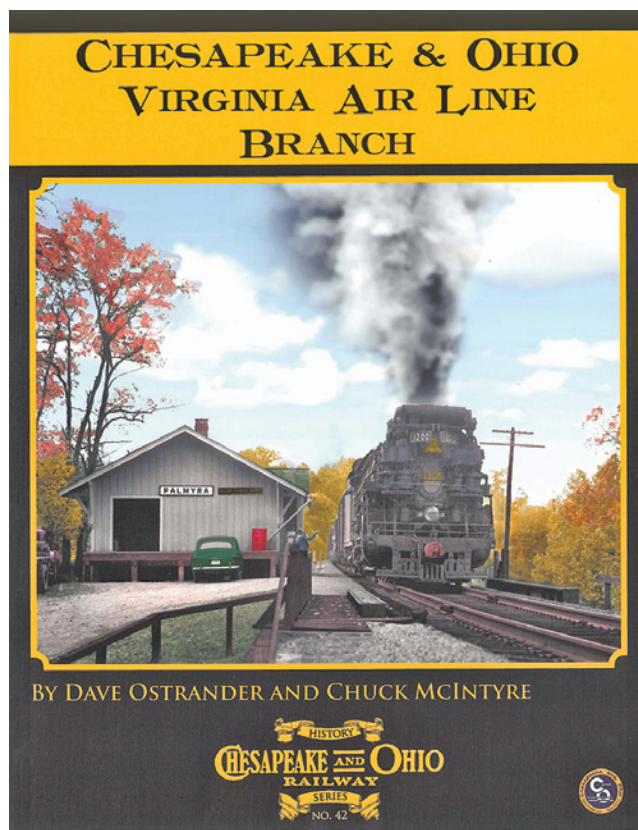
EARLY BIRD SALE! \$80.00

See your dealer first or visit shop.WhiteRiverProductions.com

ORDER ITEM RGSL2
INCLUDES FREE SHIPPING (U.S. ONLY)
REGULAR PRICE \$89.95. SALE ENDS MARCH 31, 2024
SEE WEBSITE FOR SHIPPING OPTIONS

Prototype Influence

History Series from Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Historical Society



Review by Tony Cook

Chesapeake & Ohio Railway History Series

Virginia Air Line Branch, No. 42
by Dave Ostrander and Chuck McIntyre
BK-23-502, \$24.95

James River Line Bridges, No. 43
by Al Kresse
BK-23-503, \$24.95

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway
Historical Society, Inc.
cohhs.org

If you're seeking prototype reference, you rarely find all your answers neatly bound in one source. I am impressed by a quarterly series of softcover publications from The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Historical Society that accomplishes just what

I asked for... a neatly bound source ready to provide you with what you need to know to get started replicating a prototype in miniature. Take 2023's second release (No. 42) devoted to C&O's Virginia Air Line. Across this book's 80 pages, I read the history and development of this section of the C&O system. I saw black & white images of bridges, stations, and other important details along the right-of-way (including diagrams and plans for those items). The book provides a survey of the motive power (steam and diesel) and what was carried over this branch.

The third release (No. 43) is more than 110 pages of a bridge-lover's delight. There's a mix of black & white and color images of various bridges. Several line drawings and diagrams provide important measurements and details on these impressive structures.

And it all begins with an informative introduction providing background on the subject. After sampling these two 2023 offerings, I'm eager to look at prior volumes and anticipate with interest this year's offerings.

After sampling these two 2023 offerings, I'm eager to look at prior volumes and anticipate with interest this year's offerings: *Craig Valley Branch* (No. 45), *Lake Michigan Car Ferries* (No. 46), and *The Sportman Passenger Train* in two parts (Numbers 47 and 48, due in the 3rd and 4th quarters).

While the material may best serve the C&O or Eastern U.S. modeler, there's ample resource in these publications to help reproduce a variety of locales and eras. These and other items are available from Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Historical Society's online store (chessieshop.com). **MRN**

TIMETABLE No. 3

**EFFECTIVE 12:01 A.M.
MARCH 1, 2024**

TIMETABLE listings of railroad-related events are printed free of charge on a space-available basis. Notices submitted to our website at least 90 days prior to event date will be considered for publication in the magazine. White River Productions is not responsible for errors in listings, please confirm details with event sponsor.

modelrailroadnews.com/timetable

ALABAMA, MOBILE, March 2-3, 2024. Mobile Model Train Show at Mobile Via Health, Fitness and Enrichment Center, Arlene F. Mitchell Campus, 1717 Dauphin Street. Enjoy our model train show with operating model train layouts in several scales, demonstrations of model railroad techniques, and vendors selling new and used model trains and memorabilia. Free parking, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: \$8.00 Per Person, Family \$15.00, Under Age 10 FREE. Contact Glenn Samuel at (205) 914-0693.

ARIZONA, PARADISE VALLEY, May 2-4, 2024. 2024 Sn3 Symposium at Sheraton Mesa Hotel at Wrigleyville West, 7112 E. Bronco Dr. S scale narrow gauge convention and conference including clinic presentations, layout tours, model displays and contests, train show vendors, and more. Lodging extra. See website for details and registration. Pre-registration required, Free parking, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: \$85.00 Per Person. Contact Jim Spice at (224) 374-2696, or visit Sn3Symposium.com

CONNECTICUT, ANSONIA, April 7, 2024. Classic Shows Spring Train & Toy Show at Warsaw Park, 125 Pulaski Hwy (Route 243). Enjoy our train show featuring more than 100 vendor tables with all scales and gauges of model trains, die-cast vehicles, and old toys. Several operating model railroad displays. Free parking, Wheelchair accessible, Refreshments available. Admission: \$6.00 Per Person, age 15 and under free with an adult. Contact Ludwig Spinelli at (203) 926-1327, or visit classicshowslc.com

ILLINOIS, MACHESNEY PARK, March 16-17, 2024. Harlem Model Train Show & Sale at Harlem High School, 9229 N Alpine Rd. Enjoy our train show and sale with operating layouts as well as vendors selling new and used model railroad items in two gyms and more than 42,000 sq. ft. Presented by Rock River Valley Division, Midwest Region NMRA. Door prizes, Wheelchair accessible, Free parking, NMRA event, Refreshments available. Admission: Adults \$5.00. Contact Joe Whinery at (815) 398-8973, or visit rvvd-nmra.com

ILLINOIS, URBANA, March 23-24, 2024. 40th Annual Lincoln Square Train Show at Lincoln Square Village, 100 W. High St. Enjoy our train show featuring operating model railroads, exhibits, vendors selling new and used trains, make-and-take clinics, and 2nd Annual Urbana Freemo Open. Presented by Illinois Terminal Division, Midwest Region NMRA. Refreshments available, Wheelchair accessible, Door prizes, NMRA event, Free parking. Admission: Free. Contact Mike Lehman at (217) 344-5609, or visit illinoisterminaldivision.org

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS, April 26-28, 2024. 2024 New York Central System Historical Society Annual Convention at Indianapolis Airport Crowne Plaza, 2501 S High School Rd. Our annual convention features informative presentations, tours of local railroad sites including Indianapolis Union Station, banquet with guest speaker, and model train and memorabilia show. Pre-registration required, hotel not included, see website for details. Admission: \$243.00 Per Person. For details and registration, visit nycshs.org

MAINE, TOPSHAM, April 27, 2024. Annual Spring Train Show at Mt. Ararat High School, 68 Eagles Way. Enjoy our train show featuring more than 100 tables of new and used trains in all scales and gauges, railroadiana, collectibles, and more. Presented by Great Falls Model Railroad Club. Refreshments available, Wheelchair accessible, Free parking. Admission: \$5.00 Per Person. Contact Jamie Robinson at (207) 358-8127, or visit greatfallsmodelrrclub.org

MARYLAND, BOONSBORO, April 27, 2024. Spring Train Show at Washington County Agricultural Educational Center, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike. Enjoy our train show featuring new and used model trains in all scales and gauges, plus railroadiana, collectibles, and more. Proceeds benefit the Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum at Antietam Station. Door prizes, Free parking, Refreshments available, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: \$5.00 Adults, Age 12 and under free. Contact HMRRM at (301) 800-9829, or visit antietamstation.com

MASSACHUSETTS, HINGHAM, March 9-10, 2024. Train Show & Open House at South Shore Model Railway Club, 52 Bare Cove Park Dr. Enjoy our large operating HO layout, train show with vendor tables. Free parking, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Seniors and Children. Contact Jack Foley at (781) 740-2000, or visit ssmrc.org

NEW YORK, ROCHESTER, March 30, 2024. Easter Bunny Train Rides at Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, 282 Rush Scottsville Rd. Enjoy a mile-and-a-half round trip diesel-powered train ride through our bucolic museum grounds. After the train ride, children will take part in an Easter egg hunt, which includes a visit with the Easter Bunny for photos. Tour the largest collection of historic trains in New York, and visit indoor and outdoor exhibits. Complimentary juice and cookies for kids. Free parking, Refreshments available. Admission: \$20.00 Adults, \$10.00 Youth (5-17) and Seniors (65+). Contact RGVRRM at (585) 533-1431, or visit RochesterTrainRides.com

NORTH CAROLINA, RALEIGH, May 4-5, 2024. Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club Spring Train Show at Agri Supply Exposition Center, State Fairgrounds, 4825 Trinity Road. Enjoy our train show featuring more than 300 tables of model trains and railroadiana, and multiple operating model railroad displays. Train Collectors Association will be participating in the event. Refreshments available, Door prizes, Free parking, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: \$10.00 Two-Day Admission, age 12 and under admitted free with adult. Contact George Lasley at (919) 757-4503, or visit nrvcub.net

OHIO, GREENVILLE, March 3, 2024. Darke County Model Railroad Club Swap Meet at Darke County Fairgrounds Youth Building, 800 Sweitzer Street. Enjoy our train show featuring operating model railroad displays, vendors selling new and used model trains, and more. Free parking, Refreshments available, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: \$5.00 Adults, Age 12 and under free. Contact Carl Stachler at (419) 852-5635.

OKLAHOMA, OKLAHOMA CITY, April 13-14, 2024. Festival of Trains at OKC Fairgrounds, Pavillion, 3212 Wichita Walk. Enjoy our train show featuring more than 70,000 sq. ft. of railroading, including many vendors selling new and used trains in all scales and gauges, railroadiana, collectibles, and more. Free train rides for kids on Thomas the Tank Engine. Free parking, Wheelchair accessible, Door prizes. Admission: See Website. Contact Juan Navarete at (712) 310-9687, or visit festoftrains.com

OREGON, CORVALLIS, March 16, 2024. Winterail 2024 Railroad Photography Exposition & Collectibles Sale at Corvallis High School, 1400 Buchanan Ave. Our 46th year! Enjoy a full day of outstanding digital presentations by top photographers including Kit Courter, Charles Dischinger, Warren Haack, Joel Hawthorn, Stan McInturf, Bill Meeker, Mark Perry, Jared Pohl, Scott Allan Sparks, Louis Thelen, and others. Slide Shows 12:00-10:00PM, Collectibles Sale 9:00AM-4:00PM. Purchase advance tickets through Eventbrite, see website for details. Door prizes, Free parking, Wheelchair accessible. Admission: Advance Ticket \$45.00 Per Person (includes Collectibles Sale), \$55.00 at the door, Collectible Sales only \$8.00 per person. Visit winterail.com

PENNSYLVANIA, MONROEVILLE, April 13, 2024. Pittsburgh Model Railroad Jamboree at Community College of Allegheny County, Boyce Campus, 595 Beatty Road. Enjoy a full day of model railroading including clinics, contests, and displays. Included with registration are two meals and Sunday self-directed layout tours. Presented by Keystone Division, Mid-Central Region NMRA. Wheelchair accessible, Pre-registration required, Free parking, NMRA event, Refreshments available. Admission: Members \$45.00, Non-Members \$55.00 (includes nine-month Rail-Pass). Contact Grier Kuehn at (412) 496-1575, or visit keystonedivision.org

PENNSYLVANIA, HARRISBURG, March 9, 2024. Harrisburg Railroad Show & Collectors Market at The Scottish Rite Harrisburg, 2701 N 3rd Street. Enjoy our train show featuring vendors selling railroadiana, model trains and accessories of all scales. Railroad hardware, documents, lanterns, books, videos, photographs, apparel, and more for sale. Nearby Harris Tower Museum and PRR Power Directors' Office will be open for tours. Presented by Harrisburg Chapter NRHS. Refreshments available, Wheelchair accessible, Free parking, NRHS event. Admission: Adults \$5.00, Under 12 FREE. Contact Mark Irvin at (717) 343-7182, or visit harrisburgnrhs.org

PENNSYLVANIA, MALVERN, March 22-24, 2024. 2024 Valley Forge Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet at Desmond Hotel Malvern, 1 Liberty Blvd. Bring your best work, in progress or completed, to the model display room. Enjoy clinics, vendor exhibits, and more. Sunday home layout tours (self-guided). See website for details and registration. Wheelchair accessible, Free parking. Admission: \$40.00 Per Person. Contact Steve Salotti at (610) 489-1940, or visit rpmvalleyforge.com

VERMONT, ST. ALBANS, March 9, 2024. 36th Annual NWV Vermont Rails Model Railroad Show at Collins Perley Sports & Fitness Center, 890 Fairfax Road. Enjoy our show featuring more than 100 tables of vendors selling new and used model trains in all scales and gauges, collectibles, and more. Operating railroad displays. Presented by NWV Model Railroad Association. Refreshments available, Free parking. Admission: Adults \$8.00, Age 6-12 \$2.00, Under Age 6 FREE. Contact Ronald Piro at (802) 598-0905, or visit nwvrailroad.org

WASHINGTON, SPOKANE, March 3, 2024. Spokane Spring Train Show at Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, 404 N. Havana Street, Bldgs. A, B, C. Enjoy our train show featuring more than 200 tables of railroad-related items for sale including new and used model trains, memorabilia, and more. Operating layouts, Operation Lifesaver, wTrak wooden railway for kids. Sponsored by River City Modelers. Wheelchair accessible, Free parking. Admission: \$8.00 Per Person. Contact Shirley Sample at (509) 991-2317, or visit rivercitymodelers.org

CANADA, ONTARIO, PRESCOTT, April 13, 2024. Bytown and Prescott Model Railroaders Group Train Show at Leo Boivin Community Centre, 444 Prince Street. Eastern Ontario's newest model train show! Enjoy operating layouts, displays and exhibits, and numerous vendors selling model trains in all scales. Free parking, Refreshments available. Admission: \$5.00 Adult, Under 12 free with paid adult. Contact Ron Lipsett at (613) 438-5676. 🚂

When I was building the Merchant's Row VII sample for this edition (see review beginning on page 86), I was initially surprised that Walthers had reached a seventh release in this series, and I got to wondering when it began.

The Merchant's Row series did not launch in Walthers' line as a Cornerstone-branded product. Well into the 1990s, Walthers was marketing kits under its Magnuson Models name. The hobby company's 1989 annual catalog includes two pages of HO plastic kits under the simple banner "Walthers Buildings" followed by a half-dozen pages listing Magnuson Models releases (with the subheading that they are "manufactured by Wm. K. Walthers, Inc."). In that 1989 listing, I find Merchant's Row (439-534), Merchant's Row 2 (439-539), and Merchant's Row 3 (439-545). I pulled Walthers' annual catalogs from my library and found 1983's publication looks to be the starting point for this neat series of HO structure kits. The line begins as a product from Magnuson Models and was that company's Victoria Falls Series. In 1983, two releases are listed. Returning to the late 1980s and the conclusion of the Magnuson Models name, a third release was available.

Walthers Cornerstone adds a fourth and fifth kit around 2015, with the sixth Merchant's Row arriving in 2022. The odd member of the Walthers series appears to be Merchant's Row III, which drops from the catalog in the mid-2010s. These are great kits with a good bit of history behind them, thus making for a fun series to collect. **MRN**



Marketed by **WALTHERS**

HO SCALE
(1/87)

EASY-TO-BUILD
KITS

Realistic details (seldom found elsewhere) are featured in the Century Series. Since the masters are hand-carved tooling (not machined), each structure emphasizes excellent depth of detail.

FEATURED ALSO ON THIS PAGE:
VICTORIA FALLS SERIES & "NO FRILLS" SERIES

Victoria Falls Series
Merchant's Row

NEW!



439-534 MERCHANTS' ROW 11" x 5" 28 x 12.5cm
39.95
Merchant's Row brings you 5 buildings in one kit. Special features are window mullions that are cast in place. A one piece cast roof with chimneys cast in makes this kit easy-to-assemble.

NEW!



439-539 MERCHANTS' ROW II 10" x 5" 25.5 x 12.5cm
39.95
Merchant's Row II is an additional 3 buildings that fit together with Merchant's Row I to form one city block. The first structure is a 3 story restaurant with a metal corner turret and recessed corner entrance door. The second & third buildings are 2 stories with recessed doors and much cornice and lintel detailing. Sidewalks and chimneys are also included in this kit.

Downtown USA is what Merchant's Row is all about. Browse through shops that supply everything a small town (or layout) needs.

Above: The Merchant's Row series (note the original presentation was plural "Merchants") appears to begin in the early 1980s. Known then as Magnuson Models' Victoria Falls Series, the first two offerings are shown in the HO structure kit listings from Walthers' 1983 annual catalog.

Below: The Cornerstone listings show Merchant's Row I beginning with the 1994 annual Walthers catalog. This same year's publication includes two pages for Magnuson Models and there you'll find the first and third Merchant's Row releases listed.

WELCOME TO MAIN STREET USA

Every town has a Main Street USA. And everyone has memories of the "Main Street" in his or her hometown. It may be the ice cream parlor where you had your first triple-scoop cone, or the dime store that you rode your bike to on Saturdays for baseball cards. Now you can recapture the excitement and nostalgia of Main Street on your layout with the "Main Street USA" collection from the Cornerstone Series.

Each kit is easy to build, with styrene parts molded in colors, styrene roof and molded styrene parts (replacing cast-metal details formerly in some kits). Trim, windows and doors are molded in place for easy assembly. Plus, new decals for each kit include a number of business names, so you can model several versions of the same kit.

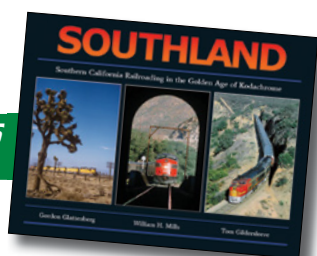


Classic California 'Chromes!

Enjoy 250 pages of colorful southern California railroading at mid-century by Tom Gildersleeve, Gordon Glattenberg, and William H. Mills, captured in vibrant Kodachrome!

See your dealer first or visit WRPbookstore.com

*SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES: \$10 U.S., \$30 INTERNATIONAL, SEE WEBSITE FOR SHIPPING OPTIONS



\$79.95
PLUS S&H*
ORDER ITEM SOLA

WHITERIVER PRODUCTIONS Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560
P.O. BOX 48, BUCKLIN, MO 64631 • INFO@WHITERIVERPRODUCTIONS.COM

BUY | SELL | TRADE
**ReSOURCED
RAILS**
!!!!!!.COM





Above: This is Merchant's Row III, which joined the Walthers Cornerstone line in 1997 and has been out of production since around 2015. Merchant's Row IV (above right) was a mid-2010s addition to the line of HO kits from Walthers.



Below: Merchant's Row V (below left) came out in 2015 and is similar to the new seventh release in the series. Merchant's Row VI (below right) was added to the Walthers Cornerstone collection in 2022.



Below: This group of HO-scale kits began four decades ago under the Magnuson Models brand. This is Magnuson's Merchants' Row II. The Walthers offerings are injection-molded plastic, while these now-vintage Magnuson versions are made up of cast-resin, cast-metal, wood, cardstock, and other materials.



DEALER DIRECTORY

YOU CAN PLACE YOUR STORE'S AD HERE

Advertise Your Hobby Shop Here!
Reach out to local and regional customers that your regular local advertising misses.
MRN Dealer Directory • PO Box 1080
Merlin, OR 97532-1080
Fax 541-955-0346
e-mail: Directory@ModelRailroadNews.com
IT'S INEXPENSIVE, TOO! — ONLY \$10/MONTH!!!

ALABAMA, Pelham (Birmingham)

Oak Mountain Hobbies & Toys
Full service Hobby Shop. N, HO, O, On30, & G scale trains. Authorized Lionel, MTH, & Digitrax dealer. Open Tue – Fri: 10-5, Sat: 10-5, Sun: 1-5.
www.oakmountainhobbies.com
2641 Pelham Pkwy. (205) 685-8980

ARIZONA, Avondale

Litchfield Station
DCC Systems, Decoders, Installations, Assistance, G to Z Scales, & Layout Supplies.
Mon – Fri: 8:00-5:00, Sat: 8:00-Noon.
Email: Sales@LitchfieldStation.com
Online Store: LitchfieldStation.com
1412 N Central Ave Ste D (623) 298-7355

CALIFORNIA, Bellflower

RailMaster Hobbies
Friendly Hobby Store!
We carry N, HO, HO3, S, & Sn3. RailMaster, Athearn, & more. DCC: Digitrax, Soundtraxx, & Loksound dealer. Special Orders welcome!
www.railmasterhobbies.com
9812 Belmont St. (562) 867-5627

CALIFORNIA, Concord

Just Trains
Largest selection in the East Bay.
New and Preowned
Digitrax dealer • Detail parts in Multiple Scales • Discount prices & friendly service
www.just-trains.com
5650 Imhoff Drive Ste. H (925) 685-6566

CALIFORNIA, Hemet

Dynamic Hobbies
We carry HO, N, Atlas, Fox Valley, Kato, Walther, Ross switches, Gartrains, Peco, and much more.
45 foot long in-store layout!
Check us out on Facebook!
811 East Florida Ave. (951) 925-9331

CALIFORNIA, La Mesa (San Diego)

Reed's Hobby Shop
Exclusively trains! Ride the trolley to Reed's. Craft kits, detail parts, Digitrax, NCE, SoundTraxx dealer, scratch supplies, & books. Open Mon – Sat: 10-6, Sun: 12-4.
www.reeds-hobbies.com
8039 La Mesa Blvd. (619) 464-1672

CALIFORNIA, Napa

The Loose Caboose
Napa Valley's premiere hobby shop!
Digitrax dealer, Trains, plastic models, rockets, slot cars, Thomas the Tank Engine, & more! Closed Monday.
Tue – Sat: 10am-6pm, Sun: 12pm-5pm.
820A 3rd Street (707) 258-1222

CALIFORNIA, Pasadena

The Original Whistle Stop, Inc.
Model rail specialists since 1951.
All scales Z to G. Digitrax & NCE dealer. Complete stock brass imports: new & used. Books, structures, tools, & detail parts.
Open 7 days. www.thewhistlestop.com
2490 E. Colorado Blvd. (626) 796-7791

CALIFORNIA, Roseville (Sacramento)

Railroad Hobbies
Exclusively model trains since 1989.
Atlas, Athearn, Digitrax dealer, Kato, Lionel, LGB, Märklin, Brass Imports, books, detail parts. Everyday low prices.
Open 7 days. www.rhobbies.com
119 Vernon St. (916) 782-6067

CALIFORNIA, Westminster (Orange Co.)

Arnie's Model Trains
Located adjacent to Milepost 38 Toy Trains. Forms a 7000 sq. ft. super model/toy train megacenters. Discount Prices.
Authorized Soundtraxx, TCS, & Digitrax dealer.
www.arniesmodeltrains.com
6452 Industry Way Ste. B (714) 893-1015

CALIFORNIA, Yuba City

The Western Depot
A full service model train store. Large inventory, HO, N, O, & O27 Tinplate. Books, videos, collector & gift items. Repair service. We buy old toy trains.
www.westerndepot.com
1650 Sierra Ave. #203 (530) 673-6776

CONNECTICUT, Cheshire

The Hobby Gallery II, LLC
Model Trains Exclusively in HO, N, & O Scale Collections All Sizes • Bought and Sold Large Inventory In Stock
Custom Built Structures and Expert Repairs
Open Tuesday – Friday: 10am-4pm
856 S. Meriden Rd. (203) 879-2316

CONNECTICUT, Manchester

Time Machine Hobby, LLC
"Largest Hobby Shop in New England"
Carry scales N – O, MTH, Lionel, Märklin, Walther, & Digitrax dealer. Large operating layouts. Sat – Wed: 10-6, Thu-Fri: 10-9.
www.timemachinehobby.com
71 Hilliard Street (860) 646-0610

DELAWARE, Ocean View

SeaSide Hobbies
No sales tax at the Delaware seashore.
Lionel new & used... also Atlas, Bachmann, & MTH! We buy used trains. Auth. Lionel repairs. Large inventory of used HO. Open Tue – Sat: 10am-4:30pm. Closed Sun & Mon.
15 Daisy Ave. (302) 539-1601

FLORIDA, Melbourne

TRF Trains & Mnt Hobbies
The Space Coast's Model Train Shop.
Z thru G scales. N scale our specialty!
Digitrax, Soundtraxx, Lionel, & Walther Dealer.
Also Atlas, BWL, IM, Kato, LGB, MTL, & Piko.
Mon – Fri: 10-5; Sat: 10-4. www.trf-trains.com
2715 N. Harbor City Blvd. #10 & 11, U.S. 1 (321) 241-4997

FLORIDA, Pinellas Park (Tampa Area)

HR Trains & Toys, Inc.
Stop by and visit us when in Florida!
Serving customers for 46 years. Your one-stop shop for trains, toys, and other modeling needs.
Mon – Sat: 10-5. Open Sundays in December.
www.hrtrains.com
7900 49th Street N. (727) 526-4682

FLORIDA, Pinellas Park (Tampa Area)

Zitnik Trains
2600 sq. ft. Showroom • Lionel & MTH dealer
New & Used: buy/sell • All gauges Z thru G
Over 6,000 Parts • Repair Service • Trains
Train sets • Track • Scenic Supplies
Tue – Sat: 10-6 • www.zitniktrains.com
5193 73rd Ave. N. (727) 201-9668

FLORIDA, Port Orange (Daytona Beach)

Roundhouse South
Your Southern Connection for Quality Products! Featuring O, HO, & N. Woodland Scenics, MTH, MegaStation, & National Service Center. Breyer Horses. Mon – Fri: 9:30am-5pm, Sat: 9:30am-4pm. www.roundhousesouth.com
4611 S. Ridgewood Ave. (386) 304-7003

FLORIDA, Sarasota

Gulf Coast Model Railroad
Trains, trains, trains! Model railroading at its best. DCC & Digitrax dealer.
Visit us in store or on the Web at: www.gcmrr.com
Open Mon – Fri: 10-6, Sat: 10-5.
1322 Clark Rd. (941) 923-9303

FLORIDA, Spring Hill

Dana's Railroad Supply
HO, N, O, & G scales and train supplies.
DCC installation & Digitrax dealer.
Operating 20 x 20 ft. HO layout.
Hours: Tue – Sat: 10am-5pm.
www.danasrailroadsupply.com
4042 Deltona Blvd. (352) 684-2484

GEORGIA, Buford

Trainmaster Models
Quality Selection & Service
Discount pricing in all scales. Digitrax dealer.
Mon – Sat: 11am-6pm, Sun: 1pm-6pm.
www.Trainmastermodels.com
Across from NS Mainline. In downtown Buford.
601 E. Main St. (678) 546-3600

GEORGIA, Riverdale

Riverdale Station Inc.
Atlanta's favorite train store for over 35 years! Catering to the serious model railroader. Quality kits, detail parts, brass models, & Digitrax dealer. Open Tue – Sat: 10-5:30. Fax (770) 907-4992
6632 Hwy. 85 (770) 991-6085

ILLINOIS, Marion

Chuck's Depot
Full-Line Hobby Shop. HO, N, some Z scale, locomotives & RTR, Digitrax dealer, scenery, plastic models, R/C, tools, paints, & more....
Open Tue – Fri: 1:30-6:30pm, Sat: 10-4pm.
1913 W. Rendelman St. (618) 993-9179

ILLINOIS, Mundelein

Ron's Mundelein Hobbies, Inc.
An Old Time Friendly Shop. Serving Northeastern Illinois for over 35 years!
Digitrax dealer. Web: mundeleinhobbies.com
Tue – Fri: 10am-6pm, Sat: 9am-4pm, Sun: 11am-3pm. Fax: 847-949-8687
431 N. Lake Street (847) 949-8680

ILLINOIS, Rockford

Midwest Rail Junction
Full service model train store.
O, HO, N, & Z scales. Digitrax dealer.
Discounted prices. Special orders welcomed.
Open Mon – Sat: 9am-5:30pm.
www.midwestrailjunction.com
1676 N Alpine Rd (815) 963-0200

ILLINOIS, Springfield

Castle Trains & Treasures
HO / G / N
Special orders / discount prices
Display layouts / clinics / assistance
Call for hours
Digitrax Dealer
4782 Old Jacksonville Rd. (217) 793-0407

INDIANA, Indianapolis

HobbyTown USA
One of the Largest Train Selections in Indy! Specializing in HO & N scales
Digitrax dealer. Special orders welcome!
Mon. – Sat. 10-8, Sun. 12-6
8326 Castleton Corner Dr. (317) 845-4106

INDIANA, Indianapolis

Train Central
An Old Fashion Train Shop
Z, N, HO, O Model Trains & Supplies
Digitrax dealer, & Railroad Books
www.waynestrains.biz
SE Corner 17th & Shadeland
1651 N Shadeland Ave. (317) 375-0832

IOWA, Hastings

JJ&CL Model Train Shop
Home of EB Products, NCE, SoundTraxx, & OSB
Decoder installation & repair. We stock model train supplies, details, parts, paint, tools... anything you'd need. More than 8,000 items. We carry tons of rare and hard to find pieces. www.jjclmodeltrainshop.com
36046 Noyes Ave. (712) 328-6647

IOWA, Urbandale

Hobby Haven
N, HO, O, Lionel, MTH, Atlas, Digitrax dealer. Exit #129 I-80/I-35, 2 miles south.
Iowa's Premier Model Railroad Store.
Open 7 days a week
www.hobbyhaven.com
2575 86th Street (515) 276-8785

KANSAS, Lawrence

ToToTrains, LLC
European trains & accessories. Discounts on all Walther's catalog items. Märklin new & used. Importer of Artitec.
Hours: Fri – Sat: 10am-4pm.
www.tototrains.com; info@tototrains.com
1031 Vermont St., Ste. A (785) 766-0467

KANSAS, Overland Park (KC Area)

Fred's Train Shop
O, S, HO, N, Z, & G Scales. Lionel, LGB, MTH, Märklin, & more! Digitrax dealer.
New, Used, & Vintage trains & repairs.
Extensive scenery line.
www.fredtrainshop.com
9322 West 87th St. (913) 383-3500

MAINE, Yarmouth

Maine Modelworks
Visit our retail store! Specialty in HO trains, DCC, scenery, & more. We offer custom work: painting, weathering, and diorama & structure building. Open Tue, Thu-Fri: 10-5, Wed: 10-7, Sat: 9-4.
Also check out: mainemodelworks.com
374 US Route 1, Ste 2 (207) 781-8300

MAINE, York

York Village Marketplace
Model trains & slot cars. Most scales available. Accessories & services. New, pre-owned, & vintage. Working layout!
Open 7 days: 10am-5pm.
Facebook.com/ModelTrainsSlotCars
891 US Rte. 1 (207) 363-4830

MARYLAND, Gaithersburg

Engine House Hobbies
Trains and more. Serving your creative needs. Primarily O, HO, scenery, and tools. Other scales ordered.
Digitrax & DCC dealer.
www.enginehousehobbies.net
1A E. Diamond Ave. (301) 590-0816

MASSACHUSETTS, Ashburnham

Shepaug Railroad Company
HO and N Scale Trains
Auth. Athearn, Digitrax, Micro-Trains, Walther's dealer. Tue & Thu 10am – 4pm, Wed & Fri 11am – 6pm, Sat 10am – 6pm
www.halprichobby.com
23 Westminster St. (978) 572-2277

MASSACHUSETTS, Malden

Charles Ro Supply Company
Serving train hobbyists for over 40 years offering the largest selection & best pricing.
Full line of N to G scale trains & supplies.
Authorized Lionel Repair Center.
Ship worldwide. www.charlesro.com
662 Cross St. (781) 321-0090

MASSACHUSETTS, Whitman

Norton Prototypes
Full line of model trains. Mostly HO.
Complete Athearn inventory. Full prototype custom shop! Large inventory of custom engines & freight cars. Largest inventory Highball graphics & Micro Scale decals.
79 South Ave. Rte. 27 (508) 725-6710

MICHIGAN, Flint

Rider's Hobby Shop of Flint
G (LGB, 1:20.3), O (Lionel, MTH), On30, HO, & N. Locos, buildings, cars, figures, kits, track, scenery supplies, details, books, & repairs. Digitrax dealer. Visit: riders.com
Mon – Fri: 10-8, Sat: 10-6, Sun: 12-5
2061 S. Linden (810) 720-2500

MICHIGAN, Saginaw

Brasseur Electric Trains, Inc.
Trains & Accessories N to G
Authorized Digitrax, Lionel, & MTH dealer sales & service. Pre/Post War repairs – over 12,000 parts in stock
www.traindoctor.com
410 Court St. (989) 793-4753

MISSOURI, Chillicothe

PHSC Hobbies
Specializing in HO, N & Z Scale Model Trains. We carry Atlas, Blackstone, Bluford Shops, BLI, Digitrax, KATO, KADEE, MTL, PECO, Soundtraxx, Walther's & more.
Store Hours M-F 11-4.
614 Washington St Suite 105 (660) 973-2799

MONTANA, Billings

Jim's Junction
Model railroading headquarters for the Northern Rockies. HO, HO3, & N gauge. Digitrax dealer, kits, parts, tools, & books.
Tue – Fri: 10-5:30, Sat: 10-3. Closed Sun-Mon.
train28@jimsjunction.com www.jimsjunction.com
811 B 16th St. West (406) 259-5354

NEBRASKA, Deshler

Spring Creek Model Trains
Largest HO/N scales inventory from Denver to Chicago. Stop in & say, WOW! All major brands. DVDs, Digitrax dealer, & more!
Mon – Fri: 10-6. Weekend Hours vary... call ahead! www.springcreekmodeltrains.com
304 E. Bryson Ave. (402) 365-7628

NEBRASKA, Omaha

House of Trains Inc.
One of the oldest and most experienced stores around. We carry all Scales!
Huge Selection!
DCC and Digitrax dealer.
www.houseoftrains.com
8106 Maple St. (402) 934-7245

NEVADA, Las Vegas

HobbyTown USA
While in Las Vegas, check out our train selection. Close to the Las Vegas strip.
DCC & Digitrax dealer.
Hours: Mon – Fri: 10am-7pm, Sat: 10am-6pm, Sun: 12pm-5pm.
4590 W. Sahara, Ste. 103 (702) 889-9554

NEW JERSEY, Piscataway

The Model Railroad Shop
Since 1933 – HO, N, & O scales.
Fire Truck models, RR, books-repair-service, & Digitrax dealer. Tue & Thu: 10:30am-6pm, Wed & Fri: till 8pm. Sat till 5pm. Closed Sun & Mon.
www.themodelrailroadshop.com
290 Vail Ave. (732) 968-5696

NEW JERSEY, Somerville

The Big Little Railroad Shop
Full line all scales N thru G. Specializing in service. Digitrax dealer.
Tue-Wed: 11am-6:30pm, Thu-Fri: 11am-7pm, Sat: 11am-5pm, Sun: 12pm-4pm
www.biglittle.com jan@biglittle.com
63 W. Main St. (908) 685-8892

NEW JERSEY, Westmont

Sattler's Hobby Shop
Atlas, Athearn, Broadway Ltd., Walther's, structures, & books.
Exclusively trains since 1955.
HO and N.
14 Haddon Avenue (856) 854-7136

NEW YORK, Farmingdale

Sunrise Trail Hobbies
Celebrating a quarter century in business
The Biggest little hobby shop on Long Island
HO, N scale and more
Club layout under construction
mconca@optonline.net
24 Commerce Drive (516) 491-3328

NORTH CAROLINA, Landis

Chuck's Trains
Specializing in N, HO, & O scale Trains & accessories.
DCC & Digitrax Dealer.
www.Chuckstrains.com
131 S. Central Ave. (704) 855-7245

NORTH CAROLINA, Spencer

Little Choo Choo Shop, Inc.
Across from NC Transportation Museum. Large selection of trains in all scales, Digitrax dealer, RR videos/books, & children's toys.
Tue – Sat: 10-5:30. www.littlechoochoochooshop.com
Or info@littlechoochoochooshop.com
500 S Salisbury Ave (800) 334-2466

OHIO, Alliance**Rob's Trains**

HO & N scale trains, Athearn, Walthers, & Kadee. Accessories, detail parts, scratch-building supplies, Digitrax, TCS, & Soundtraxx dealer. Tue, Thu, Fri: 12-8, Sat: 10-3. www.robstrains.com
333 East Main (330) 823-7222

OREGON, Beaverton**Tammie's Hobbies**

Complete full service hobby shop. HO, N, - Lionel - LGB, & Z scales. Mon.-Fri. 10am-8pm, Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 12pm-5pm. www.tammiehobbies.com
12024 SW Canyon Rd. (503) 644-4535

OREGON, Portland**The Hobby Smith**

HO, N, Z, Lionel, Brass, DCC & Digitrax dealer. Reservation discounts, New, Used, & Consignments. 16 minutes from Airport. www.hobbysmith.com
1809 NE. Cesar Chavez Blvd. (503) 284-1912

OREGON, Portland**Whistle Stop Trains Inc.**

Your complete model railroad store. Gauges Z through G. Digitrax dealer, Brass, and scratch building supplies. Mon - Fri: 10-6, Sat: 10-5, Closed Sunday. www.wsor.com
11724 SE. Division St. (503) 761-1822

PENNSYLVANIA, Bristol**Trainpops Attic**

We carry most major brands & accessories for N - G gauge. Buy • Sell • Repair. Hours change seasonally. Please check our website for hours: www.trainpopsattic@gmail.com
400 Mill St. (215) 788-2014

PENNSYLVANIA, Broomall**Nicholas Smith Trains**

American Flyer, Lionel, LGB, & Piko. HO, N, Z, & On30. Standard O & S gauges bought, sold, & traded. Auth. service center. Mon, Wed, Fri: 10-9, Tue & Thu: 10-7, Sat: 10-5. www.nstrains.com
2343 West Chester Pike (610) 353-8585

PENNSYLVANIA, Hatboro-Warminster**Joe's Train Station**

Am. Flyer, Bachmann, Lionel, LGB, MTH, Märklin. G, HO, N & Z. We buy, sell & repair trains. M-F 12-8, Sat. 10-5 (Closed Sat. July & Aug.), Open Sun. (Dec.) 10-5. www.JoesTrainStation.com
283 E. Countyline Rd. (215) 322-5182

PENNSYLVANIA, Strasburg**Strasburg Train Shop**

From trains to diecast to scenery... We have everything for the layout builder! N, HO, O, Lionel - We buy & sell used trains. Open 7 days a week, year 'round. www.etrainshop.com
226 Gap Rd. (717) 687-0464

RHODE ISLAND, Warwick**A. A. Hobbies, Inc.**

HO trains, accessories, detail parts, Craftperson kits, supplies, & tools. Open Tue - Fri: 12-6pm, Sat: 10-5pm, (Sunday, Nov & Dec: 12-4pm), & closed Monday. 1/2-mile West of airport. aahobbies@gmail.com
655 Jefferson Blvd. (401) 737-7111

SOUTH CAROLINA, Greenville**Blue Ridge Hobbies**

Model Trains Only - All At Discount Prices! 130,000 plus in all scales available online 24/7 at: www.BlueRidgeHobbies.com. Retail Store features HO Scale w/ some N & O scales. See Website For Store Hours
2327 N. Pleasantburg Dr. Ste. H (800) 988-2125

TENNESSEE, Murfreesboro**Thor's**

Authorized Lionel VAD. We carry all eras. O, HO, & N scale trains. Hundreds of rolling stock cars. Large inventory of engines & accessories. Visit our operating layout anytime! Open Monday - Saturday: 9am-5pm. 416-F Medical Center Pkwy. (615) 895-6918

TENNESSEE, Nashville**Hudson Classic Hobbies**

HO, N, O, & G scales. Special orders, plus plastic kits, rockets, R/C, and more! Located between I-24, Exit 59 and I-65, Exit 74. Open Tue, Wed, Fri, & Sat: 10-6, & Thu: 10-9. www.hudsonclassichobbies.com
15119 Old Hickory Blvd. (615) 833-8337

TEXAS, Dallas**TW TrainWorx**

Official Lionel Builder Since 2001. Train engineer shop / showroom includes: Custom layouts, Modelers, Model Stations, Bridge Kits... come see... there's always something new! www.TrainWorxStore.com
2808 McGowan St. (877) 881-4997

TEXAS, Houston**Papa Ben's Train Place**

All Trains, All Scales! DCC, Books, Brass, Repairs, & Digitrax dealer. papabens.com papabenstrains@gmail.com
4007 Bellaire Blvd. Ste. E (713) 523-5600

TEXAS, San Antonio**Dibble's Hobbies**

Model railroading is our specialty! We carry HO, N, Z, O, & G scales. DCC & Digitrax Dealer, detail parts, Märklin, Books, figures, structures, & tools. dibbleshobbies.com
1029 Donaldson Ave. (210) 735-7721

VIRGINIA, Manassas**Train Depot**

Bachmann, Lionel, LGB, MTH, Märklin, & Digitrax dealer. Repairs done on site. All scales, sales, and service. G, S, O, On30, HO, N, & Z. www.traindepot.biz
7249 Gabe Ct (703) 953-3767

WASHINGTON, Everett**Broadway Hobbies**

N, HO, O, G. Complete hobby shop. Parts, supplies, kits, tools, and more. Operating HO & G scale layouts! www.mybroadwayhobbies.com
2531 Broadway (425) 252-6130

WASHINGTON, Renton**PnP Trains**

N & HO Model Trains and accessories. New, Used & we buy collections. www.pnptrains.com M-F by appointment, 1st Saturday ea. month 12-4
17211 129th Ave SE (425) 496-8844

WISCONSIN, Green Bay**EngineHouse Services, LLC**

Exclusively trains! Specializing in DCC, N, G, & HO scales DCC installation, award winning custom painting & building available. www.enginehouseservices.com
2737 N. Packerland Dr. 2H (920) 490-4839

WISCONSIN, Milwaukee**Walthers Showroom**

Proudly Serving Model Railroaders Since 1932. Everything you need to build a great model railroad. Operating layout, historical display, & friendly service. We will be happy to see you! 1-800-246-2467 or walthers.com
5619 W. Florist Avenue (414) 461-1050

WISCONSIN, Waukesha (Pewaukee)**Jetco's Hiawatha Hobbies**

Märklin • Lionel • MTH • AF • LGB • Z to G • buildings • scenery • detail parts • books • scratchbuilding supplies • special orders • NMRA discounts • Mon - Fri 11-8 • Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5. www.hiawathahobbies.com
2026 Silvernail Rd. (262) 544-4131

CANADA — BC, Vancouver**Central Hobbies**

Large selection of model RR supplies. Brass models, Athearn, Atlas, Shinohara, Rapido, MTL, Digitrax, NCE dealer, & more. Special orders! Open 11-6, Fri til 9, Closed Sun. www.central-hobbies.com
2825 Grandview Hwy. (604) 431-0771

UK — ENGLAND, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire**Mech Models**

The Brick & Mortar Model Railroad Store. HO, N, & Z scale locomotives, rolling stock, buildings, scenery, tools, track, & more. Free parking outside the door! E-mail: admin@mech.co.uk
Unit 9, Lancaster Park • 004401283575444

UK — ENGLAND, Slough, Berkshire**Model Junction**

Specialists in American HO. Plus scenery, tools, DCC, track, & more! Established 1996. Exclusive Pelle Soeborg products. www.modeljunction.info
916 Yeovil Rd. • 0044175352860

DEALER DIRECTORY

YOU CAN PLACE YOUR STORE'S AD HERE

Place Your Store's Ad Here!

EMAIL ADS@WHITERIVERPRODUCTIONS.COM

ALABAMA, Pelham (Birmingham)

Oak Mountain Hobbies & Toys

Full service Hobby Shop. N, HO, O, On30, & G scale trains. Authorized Lionel, MTH, & Digitrax dealer. Open Mon - Fri: 10-6, & Sat: 10-5. www.oakmountainhobbies.com
2641 Pelham Pkwy. (205) 685-8980

ARIZONA, Avondale

Litchfield Station

DCC Systems, Decoders, Installations, Assistance, G to Z Scales, & Layout Supplies. Fri: 8:00-5:00, & Sat: 8:00-Noon.

Attention, Hobby Retailers!

List your store year-round in MODEL RAILROAD NEWS' Dealer Directory and declare your business as *the* place to shop for today's fresh new products... and for as little as \$10 a month.

Get started today!

Call Mike Lindsay at 800-282-3291 x305 or e-mail ads@whiteriverproductions.com

**WHITERIVER
PRODUCTIONS**

Toll-free (877) 787-2467 • Overseas (816) 285-6560

P.O. Box 48, Bucklin, MO 64631 • info@WhiteRiverProductions.com



WhiteRiverProductions

A

A-Line/Arrow Hobby	29
AAA Plus Trains and Darts	81
Accurail, Inc	25
Aero-Car Hobby Lubricants	35
American Models	8
Atheam Trains	22
Atlas Model Railroad Co., Inc.	20
Azatrax	80

B - C

Bachmann Industries, Inc	100
Berrett Hill Trains	77
Blair Line	77
Bluford Shops	32
Call To Action	81
ClassOneModelWorks	99
Coach Yard, The	30
Custom Model Railroads (CMR)	82

D - F

Dallee Electronics, Inc	81
Digitrax, Inc	19
East Coast Circuits	77
Erie Lackawanna Railroad Historical Society	27
Factory Direct Hobbies	6

G - J

Great Decals!	81
Greenberg Train Shows	81
InterMountain Railway Co	9
JAM Creations	77
JB Wheelsets	31

K - L

Kato USA, Inc.	7
Lewis County Model RR Club	28
Litchfield Station	30
Lombard Hobbies	27

M

Menards	21
Micro-Scale Models	29
Micro-Trains Line Co.	23
Miller Engineering, LLC	77

N - P

N Scale Enthusiast	82
N-Scale Magazine	35
National Association of S Gaugers	8
National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)	98
NJ International, Inc	81
Owl Mountain Models	90
PIKO America	3
PNP Trains	29

R

Ragg's...To Riches?	8
Rapido Trains, Inc	11
ReSourced Rails	94
Ron's Books	33, 90

S

ScaleTrains.com	2
Shawmut Car Shops	31
Spring Creek Model Trains	28
Sylvan Scale Models	82

T

Tahoe Model Works	90
Trainshows.com	81
TrainWorld	26
Trainz.com	35
Tru-Color Paint	26

W - Z

Washington State Model Train Show	34
Whistle Stop Trains	83
White River Productions	23, 24, 63
.....	80, 83, 84, 91, 94
Ztrack Magazine	35

THREE BIG BENEFITS OF NMRA MEMBERSHIP:



Those are the discounts that manufacturers and hobby shops in our Partnership Program are giving us right now. Partners like Micro-Mark®. Model Rectifier Corporation®. Badger Airbrush®. Unreal Details®. Hot Wire Foam Factory®. Logic Rail™ Technologies. And over 30 more companies. It's savings that can actually pay for your membership!

And are you taking advantage of our other big benefits? Like 150+ national convention clinic videos. Or over 15 hours of "how-to" videos produced by the biggest names in model railroading videos. Or our directory of model railroad layouts all over the world that you can visit. The list goes on and on.

If you haven't visited www.nmra.org lately, you're missing out on some really great stuff. Starting with a boatload of discounts!



We make it more fun.

THREE NEW LOADS!

HO FOR USE ON OUR GSC FLATCARS
SCALE OR ANYWHERE ON YOUR LAYOUT



STEEL LADLE SECTION*
ONLY: \$45.99

INDUSTRIAL MIX TANKS
ONLY: \$54.99

PRESSURE VESSEL*
ONLY: \$49.99

816-243-0044

ORDER NOW!

*LOAD INCLUDES CRIBBING
LOADS DO NOT INCLUDE FLATCAR

ACTUAL MODELS SHOWN!
PRE-PRODUCTION MODEL DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CLASSONEMODELWORKS.COM™

BACHMANN®

HO SCALE



Switch Up Your Sound Operations

*Preproduction models shown

Built between 1940 and 1956, the General Electric 44-Ton Switcher was designed to replace steam locomotives in light freight duties, primarily finding use as yard switchers for class one railroads and industrial complexes. Among only a handful of locomotives permitted to operate with a single-person crew under common carrier regulations, the 44-Ton was also an appealing choice for shortlines. The reliability of the type ensured their longevity, and many can still be found in operation today, both on tourist railroads and in revenue service. The Bachmann 44-Ton Switcher arrives in our HO Scale line with newly added Soundtraxx® Tsunami2™ DCC and sound, never-before-offered paint schemes, and the excellent quality you've come to expect from these iconic locomotive models. Switch up your sound operations with the Bachmann GE 44-Ton Switcher.



NEW

BALTIMORE & OHIO® #8301
Item No. 68201



NEW

SANTA FE #468
Item No. 68202



NEW

STRASBURG RR #33
Item No. 68203



NEW

UNION PACIFIC® #DS 1399
Item No. 68204



NEW

AMTRAK® #1000
Item No. 68205



NEW

PAINTED UNLETTERED - BLACK
Item No. 68206

Scan the QR code with your mobile device to find out more:



Arriving Spring 2024

Features include:

- Authentic paint schemes
- Soundtraxx® Tsunami2™ DCC for sound, speed, direction, and lighting control
- Dual-mode NMRA-compliant decoder for use on digital (DCC) or analog (DC) systems
- Separately applied details including grab irons, cut levers, and windshield wipers
- Painted crew figure in the cab
- Directional LED headlights
- Magnetically operated E-Z Mate® Mark II couplers



Tsunami2

MSRP: \$399.00 each

